

Foreign Rights List Spring 2025 – Children

I. CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED BOOKS

Karin Erlandsson & Karoliina Pertamo **Juno series**, Saara Kekäläinen & Reetta Niemensivu **Penelope series**, Tomi Kontio & Elina Warsta **The Dog Called Cat series**, Malin Klingenberg & Maria Sann **Skeleton**, Ilja Karsikas **Rainbow Swallowtail**, Eppu Nuotio & Sanna Pelliccioni **Free**, Saara Kekäläinen & Reetta Niemensivu **The Princess Who Did a Runner**, Miila Westin **Mythicals series**

II. CHILDREN'S NOVELS

Axel Åhman & Ola Skogäng **The Smuggler's Treasure**, Anja Portin **The Book of Misty Trees**, Sofia Chanfreau & Amanda Chanfreau **A Giraffe's Heart Is Unbelievably Large**, Karin Erlandsson & Peter Bergting **Night Express**, Eva Frantz **The Mystery of Raspberry Hill**, **Queen of the Night**, **The Secret of Helmersbruk Manor**

III. YOUNG ADULT FICTION AND NONFICTION

Ellen Strömberg **We'll Just Ride Past**, Ellen Strömberg **No Beginning, No End**, Marisha Rasi-Koskinen **The Fallen**, Marisha Rasi-Koskinen **The Dark Side of the Sun**, Johanna Förster **Circus of Dreams**, Juha Kauppinen & Janne Toriseva **The Irreplaceables**

IV. YOUNG READERS' AND MIDDLE GRADE SERIES

Malin Klingenberg **The Chronicles of Gibat**, Malin Klingenberg & Margareta Sandin **I'm a Reader! series**, Vuokko Hurme & Reetta Niemensivu **The Hues series**, Malin Klingenberg **The Senior Squad series**, Karin Erlandsson **Song of the Eye Gemstone series**





Helsinki Literary Agency offers publishers around the world a broad selection of the best Finnish fiction, nonfiction, and children's literature. Founded in 2017, the agency is a joint venture of three Finnish publishing houses: Gummerus, Schildts & Söderströms and Siltala. The agency represents a wide range of prominent, award-winning authors and illustrators with books both in Finnish and Swedish.

Helsinki Literary Agency

Lintulahdenkatu 3
FI-00530 Helsinki, Finland
www.helsinkiagency.fi

Viivi Arela

CEO, *Literary Agent*
+358 40 838 5376
viivi@helsinkiagency.fi

Urté Liepuoniüté

Senior Literary Agent
+358 44 244 3996
urte@helsinkiagency.fi

Chiara Stanziani

Literary Agent
chiara@helsinkiagency.fi

Karin Kvikant

Literary Assistant
assistant@helsinkiagency.fi

GUMMERUS

Gummerus, founded in 1872, is Finland's third largest trade publisher with a list of 200 titles each year. It is owned by Swedish Storytel.

SCHILDTS & SÖDERSTRÖMS

Schildts & Söderströms is Finland's largest Swedish language publisher with a history dating back 1891. Its imprint S&S publishes books in Finnish.

SILTALA PUBLISHING

Siltala, founded in 2008, publishes about 40 titles a year. Its list includes both literary fiction and nonfiction.

TEOS PUBLISHERS

Teos Publishers, founded in 2003, publishes about 45 new titles annually. The focus is on literary fiction, but the list includes also nonfiction and children's titles. Since 2024, Teos is owned by Siltala Publishing.

ORAVA BOOKS

Orava Books, founded in 2024, is the children's books imprint of Siltala Publishing. Orava publishes high-quality fiction and non-fiction books for ages 0-12.

EXCLUSIVE CO-AGENTS

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Dutch, English, Estonian, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian

Booksmugglers Agency

Benas Berantas

benas@booksmugglersagency.com

CHINA: Grayhawk Agency

Alyssa Wu (adult),

Clare Chi (children's)

fiction1@grayhawk-agency.com

clare@grayhawk-agency.blogspot.com

EASTERN & CENTRAL EUROPE

Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine

Agentia Literara Livia Stoia

Lidia Dumitru

lidia.dumitru@liviastoliaagency.ro

GREECE: Ersilia Literary Agency

Avgi Daferera

childrensbooks@ersilialit.com

KOREA: Amo Agency

Amo Noh

amonoh@gmail.com

POLAND: Book/lab

Piotr Wawrzenczyk

piotr@literatura.com.pl

SPANISH, CATALAN, BASQUE,

GALICIAN, PORTUGUESE:

Casnovas & Lynch Literary Agency

Marina Penalva

marina@casnovaslynch.com

TURKEY: Anatolia Literary Agency

Amy Spangler

amy@anatolialit.com

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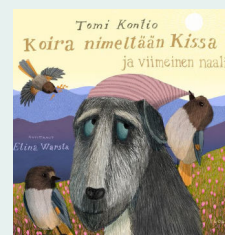
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I. Children's illustrated fiction

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Karin Erlandsson & Karoliina Pertamo

JUNO SERIES

CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED FICTION

**Juno tänker månen***Juno Lights the Moon*

Juno #1

Schildts & Söderströms, 2024, 28 pp.

Solen väcker Juno*The Sun Wakes Up Juno*

Juno #2

Schildts & Söderströms, 2025, 28 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, English translation, Finnish translation

RIGHTS SOLD

Danish, Straarup & co. (book #1)

Go to bed and wake up in the comforting company of Juno. Juno's company makes going to bed and waking up in the morning a breeze.

In *Juno Lights the Moon* (2024) it's time for Juno to go to bed. But first Juno lights the moon and thinks of everyone else who will also be soon asleep. The kings in the castles, the Lego pieces on the floor and the pans in the dishwasher.

In *The Sun Wakes Up Juno* (2025) the sun has risen and it is time for Juno to start the day. Juno takes a moment to think about everyone else who is waking up: the wellies in the puddles, the glasses on the nose, the whales in the sea. The world is preparing for another day, and new adventures await.

Karin Erlandsson takes the very youngest readers on a peaceful walk through Juno's world, and Karoliina Pertamo's tender illustrations allow everything to bathe in warm colors. The books are the perfect company for the little ones to calm down after a hectic day and wake up feeling refreshed.



Karin Erlandsson (b. 1978) is a Finnish author writing in Swedish. She has previously published a series of middle-grade novels called *Song of the Eye Gemstone*. The first novel of four, *Pearl Fisher* (2017), received the Runeberg Junior Prize and was nominated for the the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize, similarly to the fourth novel *Victor* (2019) and her later work, *Night Express* (2020).

Karoliina Pertamo (b. 1971) is an illustrator and graphic designer who illustrated her first book in 2010. She has been nominated for the Rudolf Koivu Prize (2012), Finlandia Junior Prize (2014 and 2015), Runeberg Junior Prize with two books (2020), and also for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize (2020).



Saara Kekäläinen & Reetta Niemensivu

PENELOPE SERIES



Valpuri ja vaarallinen aamupuuro

Penelope and the Perilous Porridge,
Penelope #1

Tammi, 2022, 48 pp.

Valpuri ja hirmuinen hammashässäkkä

Penelope and the Big Baby Tooth Ballyhoo,
Penelope #2

Tammi, 2023, 48 pp.

CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED FICTION

- NOMINEE FOR THE FINLANDIA JUNIOR PRIZE 2022
- NOMINEE FOR THE STORYTEL AWARD 2023
- NOMINEE FOR THE STORYTEL AWARD 2025

Valpuri ja valtaisa vaatekaos

Penelope and the Curious Clothing Commotion,
Penelope #3

Tammi, 2024, 48 pp.

Valpuri ja uskomaton uniseikkailu

Penelope's Bedtime Hurly-Burly,
Penelope #4

Tammi, 2025, 48 pp.

With Penelope any mundane task turns into a wild adventure in fantasy land.

Penelope is a lovable and sharp pocket-sized girl full of attitude and mischief. In this series, Penelope encounters everyday tasks that, for the adults, seem simple enough – like eating breakfast, brushing teeth, and getting dressed. But when Penelope's imagination sets off, there is all of a sudden full speed and surprising turns!

The first installment of the series, *Penelope and the Perilous Porridge* (2022), deals with overcoming the dangers a healthy portion porridge poses. This story of the epic duel between a girl and her breakfast was a nominee for the Finlandia Junior Prize, the largest children's book prize in Finland.

In the second book, *Penelope and the Big Baby Tooth Ballyhoo* (2023), something strange happens. One of her teeth starts to wiggle. Will Penelope receive new sheep instead of new teeth? Will she meet the tooth fairy's cousin, the tooth imp?

The third book, *Penelope and the Curious Clothing Commotion* (2024), Penelope should get dressed, but she has a sneaking suspicion that the clothes have it in for her. If she does not watch out, there seems to be a fair chance the clothes will attack, or that something else as unexpected will happen...

In *Penelope's Bedtime Hurly-Burly* (2025) it's bedtime. Dad wants Penelope to go to sleep, but she has too much going on, and sleep won't come. Penelope tries to get to the Dreamland with a flying carpet, and starts to question whether her bed really is a bed or rather a secret portal, or maybe a bed-shaped trampoline? How can she know if she'll have a nice dream or a nightmare? And where does sleep hide during the day? Penelope is ready for anything, but thankfully a good night's sleep awaits.



Saara Kekäläinen (b. 1971) has authored five children's books so far: *Penelope and the Perilous Porridge* (2022), *Princess Who Did a Runner* (2022), *Penelope and the Big Baby Tooth Ballyhoo* (2023), *Penelope and the Curious Clothing Commotion* (2024), and *Penelope's Bed-Time Hurly-Burly* (2025). She writes adult fiction under the pseudonym of Olga Kokko.

Reetta Niemensivu (b. 1979) is an illustrator, comic strip artist and graphic designer. Their first installment together, *Penelope and the Perilous Porridge* (2022), was nominated for Finland's biggest literary award, the Finlandia Junior Prize.



PENELOPE SERIES

“An ordinary bowl of breakfast porridge takes on increasingly astounding meanings in a picture book where the drama builds splendidly from spread to another. The dialogue between image and word easily traverses pages on which the element that seems visually and narratively impossible – porridge – changes, in the eye of the protagonist, to different forms: into an ambassador, a part of an art exhibition or an archaeological treasure. Can porridge ever have been pictured with such subtlety?”

– FINLANDIA JUNIOR PRIZE JURY ON BOOK #1

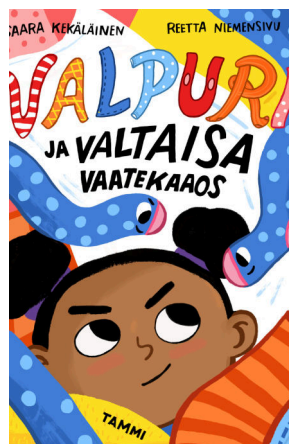
READING MATERIAL

Finnish originals, English translations

RIGHTS SOLD

Korean, KSI (book #2)

Latvian, Latvijas Mediji (books #2 and #3)



Tomi Kontio & Elina Warsta

A DOG CALLED CAT SERIES



Koira nimeltään Kissa

A Dog Called Cat

Teos, 2015, 32 pp.

Koira nimeltään Kissa tapaa kissan

A Dog Called Cat Meets a Cat

Teos, 2019, 40 pp.

Koira nimeltään Kissa kaippaa kotia

A Dog Called Cat Looking for a Home

Teos, 2020, 32 pp.

CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED FICTION

- NOMINEE FOR THE FINLANDIA JUNIOR PRIZE 2019
- AUDIENCE FAVOURITE OF THE FINLANDIA JUNIOR NOMINEES 2019
- NOMINEE FOR THE NORSCIC COUNCIL LITERATURE PRIZE 2016
- IBBY HONOUR LIST 2016

Koira nimeltään Kissa ja joulun ihme

A Dog Called Cat and the Wonder of Christmas

Teos, 2021, 40 pp.

Koira nimeltään Kissa ja viimeinen naali

A Dog Called Cat and the Last Arctic Fox

Teos, 2024, 32 pp.

A disarmingly beautiful picture book series about accepting difference and the importance of friendship.

A Dog Called Cat (2015) tells the story of a small puppy, whom her mother names Cat because Cats are independent, and the mother knows the puppy will end up alone. But the dog called Cat feels just lonely, not independent, until she meets a man called Weasel.

In the second book, *A Dog Called Cat Meets a Cat* (2019) the dog called Cat and the man called Weasel encounter a cat of an adventurous disposition. The cat, whose name has often changed during the vagabond years, becomes a cat called Dog and a third party to the true friendship they share.

The only problem the friends have is that they have no home. Even though they love roaming freely, winter can be cruel and the endless wandering tough. In *A Dog Called Cat Looking for a Home* (2020) Cat's heart is suddenly filled with longing, and she realizes the friends need to find a haven.

In *A Dog Called Cat and the Wonder of Christmas* (2021) the dog called Cat, the cat called Dog and the man called Weasel are walking in the empty streets of the snow-cruised city where everyone has retreated to celebrate with their nearest and dearest. There they realize how fortunate they really are.

In *A Dog Called Cat and the Last Arctic Fox* (2024), Dog, Cat, and Weasel travel to the Finnish Lapland along with their new friend Tiger. On the beautiful nature adventure, the group saves an Arctic fox and once again confirms the importance of friendship and belonging.

The five-book series about three friends with a rougher lot in life deals with seeing people without prejudice and the importance of looking beyond the surface. The bittersweet, humorous books show life in all its guises and tell that even those of us with a rougher lot can experience joy and happiness.



Tomi Kontio (b. 1966) is an established poet and author who has received numerous awards for his works. His first children's book, *Daddy Grew Wings in Spring* (2000), won the Finlandia Junior Prize and was awarded the LukuVarkaus Prize by a children's jury. Kontio's poetry has been translated into many languages.

Elina Warsta (b. 1979) is an illustrator and graphic designer. Several of the book covers she has designed have won prizes in the Most Beautiful Book of the Year competition. Books she has illustrated have been published in several areas. *A Dog Called Cat* series (2015–2021), consisting of four stand-alone books, is Kontio's and Warsta's celebrated collaboration.

A DOG CALLED CAT SERIES

READING MATERIAL

Finnish originals, English translations

RIGHTS SOLD

Bulgarian, Raketa (books #1-4)

Estonian, Päike

ja pily (books #1-2)

Hungarian, Koinonia (books #1-5)

Lithuanian, Niek Rimto (book #1)

Romanian, Pandora | Trei Editorial Group (books #1-4)

Serbian, Pcelica (book #1)

Slovakian, Ikar (book #1)

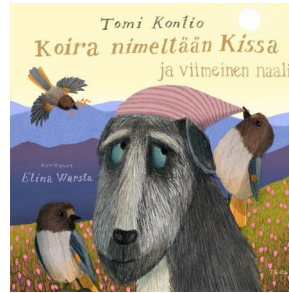
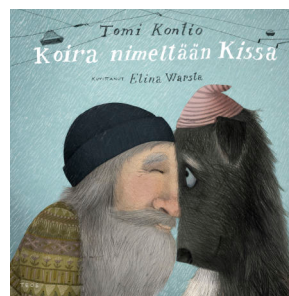
World Spanish, Lata de Sal (book #1)

Swedish, Epix (book #1, books #2-3 optional)

Turkish, Nar (book #1)

“This edgy story which shows great respect for the child’s understanding, together with its nuanced, almost eclectic illustration, is so exceptionally ambitious as to make *A Dog Called Cat* a brilliant example of the deep relationship between image and word, evidence in this case of the author’s and illustrator’s respect for each other’s expression. As a whole it makes a harmonious, insistent narrative, with illustrations that are forever in dynamic motion. Warsta embellishes the frames of the pictures with simple lines or figurative ornamentation. [...]Kontio’s language is lyrical without being too fancy and rolls fluidly off the tongue of an adult reading to a child. [...]This is a multi-faceted picture book which takes an active approach to multiculturalism, identity, friendship, and social inequality.”

– NORDIC COUNCIL LITERATURE PRIZE JURY ON BOOK #1

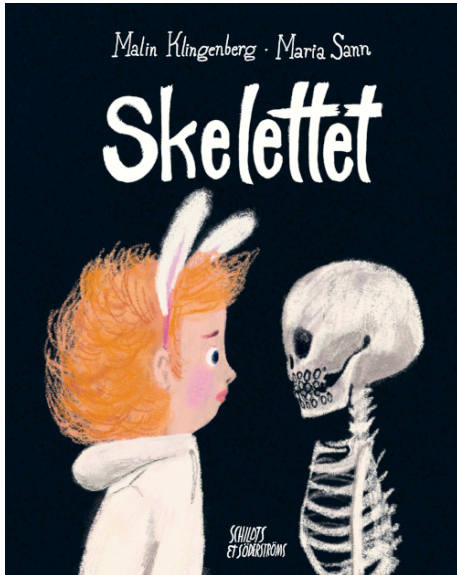


Malin Klingenberg & Maria Sann

SKELETON

CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED FICTION

- NOMINEE FOR THE NORDIC COUNCIL LITERATURE PRIZE 2024
- SOCIETY OF SWEDISH LITERATURE IN FINLAND AWARD IN 2023

**Skelettet***Skeleton*

Schildts & Söderströms, 2022, 36 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, Finnish translation, English translation

RIGHTS SOLD

Dutch, De Vier Windstreken**German**, Fischer Sauerländer**Korean**, KSI**Latvian**, Zvaigzne ABC

Does my skeleton dream of Halloween? Does my skeleton sweat when we run?

Teo dresses up like a bunny for his friend Roni's costume party. Olivia comes as a robot, while Alvi comes as a horse. Meanwhile, the host Roni shows up as a skeleton. And Teo can't think of anything scarier than a skeleton!

When Roni's skeleton suddenly glows in the dark, Teo bolts as if death itself were on his heels. But a human child with bunny paws doesn't run as fast as a real bunny. Teo trips over his paws and hurts himself.

There's nothing to do but go see the doctor and take x-rays.

Let's have a look at your skeleton, says the doctor. Teo is horrified: is there a skeleton inside me? Of course there is, his mother whispers tenderly. But Teo is chilled to the bone. Is there a skeleton inside everyone? What if the little brother living inside Mommy's tummy sees her skeleton and is frightened?

Skeleton is a tenderly told story about a child overcoming his fears while learning what each of us is made of. Sometimes parts of us break and need to be fixed with a cast.

"An expert at telling humorous stories, Klingenberg has toned down the funny business and written a book that is inventive, multi layered, and in complete solidarity with its child protagonist. [...] Klingenberg has partnered here with one of Finland's sharpest illustrators, Maria Sann. If this were a ballroom dance competition, they'd be standing on the podium's top spot. Sann succeeds in enriching the text with unexpected illustrative strategies and angles that reveal a child's perspective. [...] Read *Skeleton*, and you'll see how Klingenberg and Sann's polished pearl of a picture book grows with every read into a brilliant bullseye that literally and figuratively gets under the skin of the protagonist and reader alike."



– HUFVUDSTADSBLADET NEWSPAPER



Malin Klingenberg (b. 1979) is a Swedish-speaking children's author from Finland. She has written six books of The Senior Squad series for young readers, a novel for teenagers, *Elk Girl* (2018), and several illustrated children's books, of which *The Secret Life of Farts* (2019), illustrated by Sanna Mander, has been translated to ten languages.

Maria Sann (b. 1982) is a Finnish illustrator who has in addition to children's books worked on book covers. In 2021, she was awarded with the prestigious Rudolf Koivu Award. Together with Malin Klingenberg she has published three books, latest *Skeleton* (2022) and *The Runaways* (2024).

Ilja Karsikas

RAINBOW SWALLOWTAIL

CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED FICTION


Sateenkaarikiittäjä

Rainbow Swallowtail
S&S, 2024, 38 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS SOLD

German, Achse Verlag

A charmingly heartfelt story about friendship.

Rina and Marla get into a fight in the middle of a game. Rina gets annoyed and sad. But then she hears a strange whirring that sounds inviting. It is impossible to tell where the sound is coming from. Rina feels that it is leading her somewhere...

The chirping gets louder and louder, and Rina follows it to the edge of the city. There she finds the mysterious rainbow swallowtail butterfly – but there is also Marla, who has been waiting for her!

Rainbow Swallowtail is a colorful feel-good story about the meaning of friendship and how important it is to know how to ask for help and forgive.



Ilja Karsikas (b. 1978) is an illustrator and graphic designer known for his conversation-sparking children's books like *The Unicorn* (2022), *Under the Moon* (2020, in collaboration with Aki-Pekka Sinikoski), *Storm and Light* (2023) and *Rainbow Swallowtail* (2024). In addition to his visual work, Karsikas creates music and is involved in a number of artistic projects.



Eppu Nuotio & Sanna Pelliccioni

FREE

CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED FICTION

**Vapaa***Free*

S&S, 2024, 36 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

“Any lock will open when you find the right key.”

It's late summer in 1989, and a girl has lost her home keys. Granny is crocheting a hat, Mum is making doughnuts, Pavel from next door is researching isomers, and Martta has painted a sun on the kitchen wall. It's a scorcher of a day – old men are playing chess, sitting in the shade of tall trees, and washing dries so quickly it's worth sitting down to wait for it. On days like this ice cream vendors are sweating, and beaches are chock-full of people.

There's something very special about today. People have been whispering about it for weeks and it is finally about to happen. Today everyone will stand by the roadside and hold hands with one another, forming a chain of freedom across countries and borders.

In August 1989 some two million people formed a 600-kilometre-long human chain from Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, to Riga, Latvia, and again to Vilnius in Lithuania. The chain stood for independence and consisted of people of all ages. They stood hand in hand and demonstrated peacefully for hope of freedom.

It's a warm August day. A day I'll always remember. The day we found the key. The day I learned that there are no dull days, only days when you can do miracles.

Translated by Kate Sotejeff-Wilson

Free is the second book written by Eppu Nuotio and illustrated by Sanna Pelliccioni that deals with historical events of the 20th century from a child's perspective.



Eppu Nuotio (b. 1962) is a bestselling author, whose extensive body of work includes novels, children's books, radio plays, plays, and television scripts. Her latest adult novel is the third instalment in a cosy mystery series about carpenter Raakel Oksa.

Sanna Pelliccioni (b. 1976) is an award-winning illustrator and children's author. Her picture books include *We Had to Leave* (2018), *I Remember You with Love* (2020), *Matias and Everything that Was Far Away* (2021) and *Forest Field Notes* (2022). Nuotio and Pelliccioni have created together so far two children's books, both about key moments in 20th century history from a child's perspective: *Sent across the Sea* (2022) and *Free* (2024).

Saara Kekäläinen & Netta Lehtola

THE PRINCESS WHO DID A RUNNER

CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED FICTION

• NOMINEE FOR THE ARVID
LYDECKEN AWARD 2023



Prinsessa joka lähti kälppimään

The Princess Who Did a Runner
S&S, 2022, 42 pp.

READING MATERIAL
Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS SOLD

Czech, Portal
Danish, Straarup & Co.
Greek, Ammos
Latvian, Latvijas Mediji;
Slovenian, Hiša knjig
Ukrainian, Charitarium

This little nipper wanted to be wise, strong, and wild – and wasn't going to wait around for a prince.

Leona is a young princess who does a runner when she learns of the fate that awaits her: she must marry a prince in order to save her kingdom.

Leona jumps from one princess fairytale to the next in order to save herself from the age-old burdens of princesses that lurk around every corner – marriage and household chores. Along the way she meets many characters including a melancholic mirror, the species-changing Swanhilda, and princes with a penchant for glass shoes, menacing pouts, and rescue mission obsessions – not to mention seven adult men who are short of stature and don't want to learn to clean and cook for themselves. The kind-hearted Leona helps everyone, but on her own terms. This princess refuses to be gentle, humble, and kind, just because that's what's expected of a fairytale princess!

The Princess Who Did a Runner is a picture book full of sharp humour that will even offer big children and adults plenty of food for thought.

“OUCH!” shouted the prince, whose lips Leona had just smacked her head into.

“Another prince! This is all too much!” said Leona.

“I was just trying to wake you with a kiss,” explained the prince.

“Why would you even think about kissing someone who's asleep? Besides I'm already wide awake, thank you very much,” said Leona.

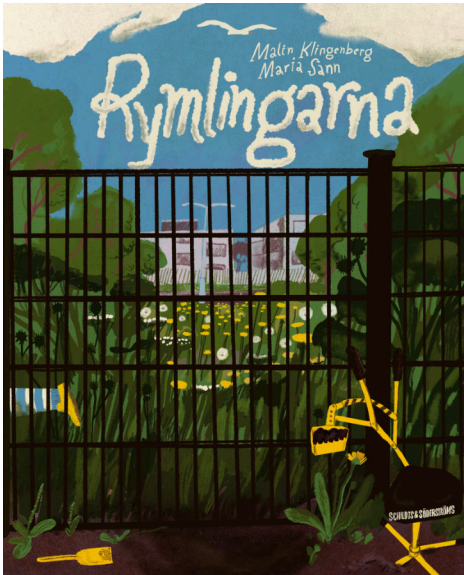
Translated by Tabatha Leggett



Saara Kekäläinen (b. 1971) is an author known of her witty and anarchistic themes handled with abundant humour. She has written four children's books, three of them to Penelope series illustrated by Reetta Niemensivu. The fourth, *The Princess Who Did a Runner* (2022), was a nominee for the prestigious Arvid Lydecken Award. She publishes her adult novels with the pseudonym Olga Kokko.

Netta Lehtola (b. 1996) is an illustrator who works widely in the field of visual media. A children's picture book *Fox Stories* (2019), illustrated by her, was a nominee for the Finlandia Junior Prize.

Malin Klingenberg & Maria Sann

THE RUNAWAYS**Rymlingarna***The Runaways*

Schildts & Söderströms, 2024, 36 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, Finnish

translation, English translation

Freedom smells and feels completely different!

Jona, Ebba, and Linnea are almost too big for day nursery. And they also have new shovels.

These facts coalesce when the friends make a tantalizing discovery on the nursery playground. It's the beginning of a tunnel they started digging when they were just little, which they had forgotten about!

Soon they've made an opening under the fence big enough for a child to pass through.

When their teacher Mona gets sleepy during the children's nap time, it gives the friends a perfect opportunity to escape.

Being free is completely different. And what do they find outside the preschool? Another runaway, who needs to be protected from the dangers of the outside world!

The Runaways is wittily written by Malin Klingenberg and wonderfully illustrated by Maria Sann. Their previous collaboration, *Skeleton*, was published in 2022.



Malin Klingenberg (b. 1979) is a Swedish-speaking children's author from Finland. She has written six books of the Senior Squad series for young readers, a novel for teenagers, *Elk Girl* (2018), and several illustrated children's books, of which *The Secret Life of Farts* (2019), illustrated by Sanna Mander, has been translated to ten languages.

Maria Sann (b. 1982) is a Finnish illustrator who has in addition to children's books worked on book covers. In 2021, she was awarded with the prestigious Rudolf Koivu Award. Together with Malin Klingenberg she has published three books, latest *Skeleton* (2022) and *The Runaways* (2024).



Virpi Kaarina Talvitie, Anna Sofia Urrila,
Henna-Kaisa Wigren & Kirsi-Marja Zitting

CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED NONFIC.

CLOSE YOUR EYES, IRIS!



Silmät kiinni, Silmu

Close Your Eyes, Iris
S&S, 2019, 42 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS SOLD

Turkish, Hayalkurdu Kitap

Why do you have to go to sleep, even if you're not a bit tired? How do fish sleep, and do horses really sleep standing up?

Iris is cross. She's in the middle of a game, and her mother, tired out by the baby, is angrily telling her to go to bed. Why are grown-ups allowed to stay up later? And who on earth is the Sandman?

Her dreams take Iris with them into the forest, to a farm, under the water and finally to the mountains. Along the way, the young reader finds out new facts about sleep. When Iris wakes up in the morning, everything looks bright again – even mother has cheered up.

Close your Eyes, Iris! is a book about the fascinating and still largely unknown world of sleep. Many exciting aspects of sleep receive a child-level explanation which will also interest adult readers: Do also jellyfish sleep, and how, as they don't have brains or eyes? How can bears sleep all winter? How do sleep and sleeplessness affect the human body? And why is it sometimes really difficult to wake up?

The book's writers, **Anna Sofia Urrila** (b. 1980), **Henna-Kaisa Wigren** (b. 1977) and **Kirsi-Marja Zitting** (b. 1982), are sleep-deprived mothers at the busiest time of their lives. They are also sleep researchers who met when they were working on their doctoral theses in the same research group at the University of Helsinki. **Virpi Kaarina Talvitie** (b. 1961) is an award-winning illustrator who, in addition to dozens of story books, has provided the illustrations for numerous textbooks and children's nonfiction works.



Miila Westin

MYTHICALS SERIES

**Loputon talvi**

Endless Winter, Mythicals #1
S&S, 2023, 109 pp.

Vaarallinen uni

Dangerous Dream, Mythicals #2
S&S, 2024, 112 pp.

Sammuva valo

Dying Light, Mythicals #3
S&S, 2025, c. 110 pp.

READING MATERIAL:
Finnish originals, English
translations

A gripping adventure combining ancient Balto-Finnic myths with contemporary challenges.

In *Endless Winter* (2023) it's June and there's a snowstorm. Nature has gone haywire, and no one knows what to do.

Returning home from a funeral of her grandfather, 10-year-old Eevi runs into the guardian elf of barley. She finds out the mystery behind the strange weather – and learns that if something isn't done soon, winter will last forever.

Eevi is soon drawn into a magical adventure with a group of elves. Their mission is to free the awakener of spring nature, whom the powerful and evil Kalevala witch Louhi has imprisoned in the Underworld. On the journey, Eevi encounters various magical creatures, gets lost in the forest and finally slips through a crack into the Underworld.

The story continues in *Dangerous Dream* (2024). Eevi has a nightmare about the sun going dark. Does the dream have something to do with her adventures in the Underworld?

Eevi wakes up when her friend Otso walks into the room. Otso's sister is ill, and she needs help. Eevi happens to have a magical piece of jewelry needed for a healing spell, so she must return to the world of magic.

Soon it turns out that Eevi and her necklace are chased by the witch Louhi as well as various other evil spirits. On top of that, Otso disappears. Fortunately, there are many friendly helpers along the way and a quiet, nameless wolf cub who has its own plans. As the adventure progresses, Eevi notices that dreams are rarely just dreams and one must be very, very careful with them.



Miila Westin (b. 1987) is an illustrator, graphic designer and cartoonist living in Helsinki. Westin has illustrated Anja Portin's middle-grade novel *Radio Popov*, the winner of the Finlandia Junior Prize of 2020, which has traveled to over 25 areas. She graduated as Master of Arts in Visual Narrative from Aalto University of Arts and Design, completing her thesis on the visualizations of Finnish mythical creatures.



MYTHICALS SERIES

In *Dying Light* (2025), Eevi has to save the world by talking sense into Louhi when she is planning to shut down the sun and kill the whole earth. Luckily, Otso has a meticulous plan to save the day.

Mythicals is a series of graphic novels that draws inspiration from ancient Balto-Finnic folklore.

RIGHTS SOLD:

Czech, Host

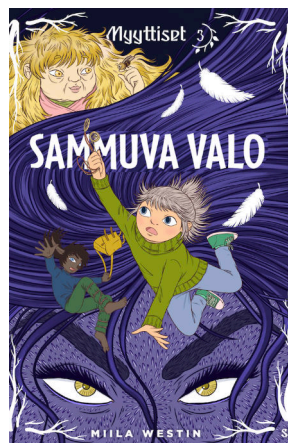
Danish, Straarup & co

Swedish, Schildts & Söderströms
(optioned)

Vietnamese, Kim Dong

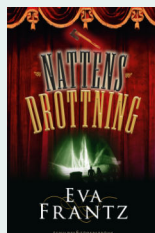
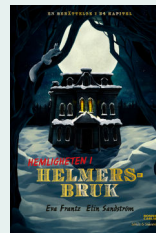
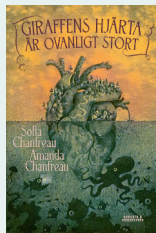
World French, Sarbacane

World Spanish, Galimatazo



II. Children's novels

Axel Åhman & Ola Anja Portin **The Book of Misty Trees**, Sofia Chanfreau & Amanda Chanfreau **A Giraffe's Heart Is Unbelievably Large**, Karin Erlandsson & Peter Bergting **Night Express**, Eva Frantz **The Mystery of Raspberry Hill**, **Queen of the Night**, **The Secret of Helmersbruk Manor**



Axel Åhman & Ola Skogäng

THE SMUGGLER'S TREASURE

CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED FICTION

**Smugglarens skatt***The Smuggler's Treasure*

Schildts & Söderströms 2024, pp. 192

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, English sample,
English synopsis

RIGHTS SOLD

Danish, Bogoo

A sea-borne Christmas adventure for young readers.



Twelve-year-old Oliver can't wait for Christmas to come. His parents are away for work, and he's spending two weeks at Grandma's place, which happens to be on a tiny island in the middle of nowhere.

Grandma and Oliver get on well but there isn't much to do, unless doing homework and sorting out Grandma's huge collection of china Santa Clauses are your idea of fun. Oliver can't help but wonder what's in the attic, the only part of the house that's off limits – until one day curiosity gets the better of him, and he sneaks in.

Oliver finds an old photograph of a uniformed sea captain, a few old nautical charts of the area, some letters, and a mysterious compass that doesn't point north, but always takes him where he wants to go. This is fine as far as Oliver's concerned, but soon more mysteries emerge: who was his ancestor Verner Strand really, and what befell him on Christmas Eve 100 years ago? Could the rumours about a hidden treasure in the archipelago be true?

The Smuggler's Treasure is a tale of adventure, mystery, and family secrets, culminating in a Christmassy happy ending. It shows that nothing is as it seems, and all that glitters isn't gold, while treasures can be found in the oddest places.

– *But maybe the treasure's still there? Maybe it's just very well hidden?*

– *That's not impossible. But to find it you'd have to know which island to search for it on - and that knowledge went down with the region's most notorious smuggler.*

Axel Åhman (b. 1993) is an author, comedian, and journalist based in Vaasa. A member of the comedy group KAJ and a prolific playwright and screenwriter, Åhman is recognizable for his style, characterised by humorous traits – sometimes leaning towards the tragicomical – and a genuine warmth for his characters.

Ola Skogäng (b. 1974) is an established Swedish illustrator, author and cartoonist who has been working with advertising, film, tv, comics, magazines, video games and photography for over two decades. He was nominated for the Urhunden Award in 2009, and won the Adamson Award the same year.



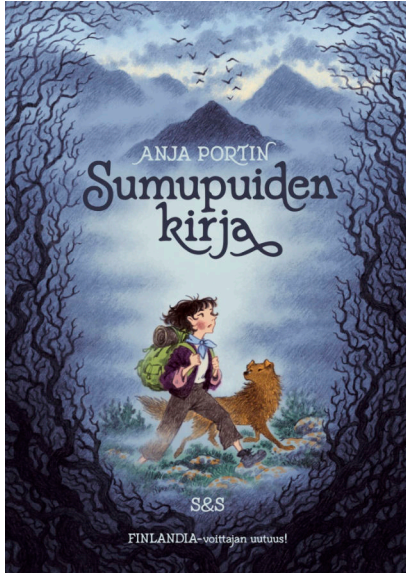
Translated by Fiona Graham

Anja Portin

THE BOOK OF MISTY TREES

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

• LUKUVARKAUS PRIZE 2024



Sumupuiden kirja

The Book of Misty Trees
S&S, 2023, 384 pp

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English sample,
English synopsis

RIGHTS SOLD

Danish, Straarup & Co.
Estonian, Ühinenud ajakirjad
Polish, Widnokrag

An enchanting new adventure novel by the Finlandia Prize winner Anja Portin.



In the spring, I was left alone. Mother disappeared under the earth that quaked down the mountain. Time after that has passed in a haze and I couldn't tell you what day it is...

Magda Murkbird loses her mother in a horrible accident and needs to learn to cope on her own. Luckily, she is not all alone but has Chestnut – the best dog on earth. In fact, it is thanks to Chestnut that Magda has survived unscathed. The two set off on a journey to look for Magda's aunt she has never met, and on the way they get lost in a mysterious thick fog covering the peak of the Misty Mountain.

Thus begins an unforgettable adventure in a world governed by Misty Trees, above all the eldest of them, the fountain of all living, the enormous Everbark.

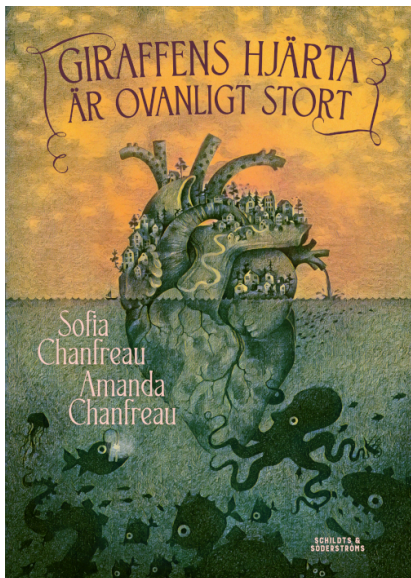
Anja Portin has quickly become a favourite among children's authors with her middle grade novel *Radio Popov*, now sold to 25 areas. She writes about children who take matters into their own hands when grownups do not want to take responsibility or are not there to do it. Portin's theme and style evokes comparisons with Astrid Lindgren and Roald Dahl, among others.

Anja Portin (b. 1971) is a Helsinki-based author who has written children's books, essays, nonfiction, and a novel (*Obituary*, 2019). She studied comparative literature and law at the Universities of Helsinki and Turku, and has worked as a journalist and an editor. Her middle-grade novel *Radio Popov* (2020) received the Finlandia Junior Prize as the best Finnish children's book of the year, and has been sold to twenty-five areas so far. In 2021, she published a picture book *Matias and Everything that Was Far Away*, illustrated by Sanna Pelliccioni. Her latest children's book is an adventure novel *The Book of Misty Trees* (2023).



Sofia Chanfreau & Amanda Chanfreau

A GIRAFFE'S HEART IS UNBELIEVABLY LARGE



Giraffens hjärta är ovanligt stort

A Giraffe's Heart Is Unbelievably Large

Schildts & Söderströms, 2022,
206 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, English sample,
English synopsis

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

- FINLANDIA JUNIOR PRIZE 2022
- NOMINEE FOR RUNEBERG JUNIOR PRIZE 2023
- NOMINEE FOR THE NORDIC COUNCIL LITERATURE PRIZE 2023

RIGHTS SOLD

Simplified Chinese (Mainland China), Everafter; **Croatian**, Ibis Grafika; **Czech**, Host; **Danish**, Straarup & Co.; **Dutch**, Lannoo; **English** (UK & Commonwealth), Gecko Press; **Estonian**, Ühinenud Ajakirjad; **World French**, Milan; **Hebrew**, Keren; **Italian**, Salani; **Korean**, Dasan; **Latvian**, Janis Roze; **Lithuanian**, Alma littera; **Polish**, Dwie Siostry; **Slovenian**, KUD Sodobnost; **World Spanish**, Océano

Welcome to a world of fantasy you will not want to leave!

Vega is ten years old and lives with her father on Giraffe Island. Life goes along in its usual way, which in Vega's case means anything but usual. She sees things no one else does, like imaginary animals that keep her company. The bathroom is home to a gray bear whose fur is lathered with shampoo, and on the way to school she encounters Atle the asphalt beaver and the crosswalk zebra Zacharias.

Vega has never met her mother, and when she asks her father and her grandfather Hektor about her mother, they speak in mysteries. When Vega's father gets a not-so-nice girlfriend and Vega gets an unexpected pen pal, she decides to set out on an adventure to find out more about her mother.

Colored by magical realism, *A Giraffe's Heart Is Unbelievably Large* is a tale of longing to be part of a family, to find one's place in the world, and to be loved as one is. It's a superb read for a child alone or for parents and children together.

"In its magical realism, the work takes us to places and moods that shimmer with something rare and fine. We see the world through the eyes of the narrator and the main characters, and captivating connections form between fantasy and reality. The narration is borne along by beautiful language, surprising transitions, and humor. Equally generous and idiosyncratic are the book's illustrations, which carry us off to milieus we are in no hurry to leave." – FINLANDIA JUNIOR PRIZE JURY

"Together they have created an imaginationstimulating story, with fantasy sprouting from the book's pages. [...] The under current of this playful, freshly humorous story is serious, bringing to mind such authors as Shaun Tan and Tormod Haugen." – BTJ MAGAZINE



Sofia (b. 1986) and **Amanda Chanfreau** (b. 1983) were born in Helsinki and currently live in Malmö, Sweden. Written by Sofia and illustrated by Amanda, *A Giraffe's Heart Is Unbelievably Large* (2022) is the sisters' debut work, and the winner of Finland's biggest literary award, the Finlandia Junior Prize. The book was also a nominee for the Runeberg Junior Prize.

Eva Frantz

THE MYSTERY OF RASPBERRY HILL, QUEEN OF THE NIGHT, THE SECRET OF HELMERSBRUK MANOR

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

• RUNEBERG PRIZE 2019



Hallonbacken

The Mystery of Raspberry Hill
Schildts & Söderströms, 2018, 150 pp.

Nattens drottning

Queen of the Night
Schildts & Söderströms, 2021, 150 pp.

Hemligheten i Helmersbruk

The Secret of Helmersbruk Manor
Schildts & Söderströms | Bonnier
Carlsen, 2021, 267 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, English samples, English synopses, English translations (*The Mystery of Raspberry Hill* & *The Secret of Helmersbruk Manor*)

Ghosts and crime for middle grade readers by Finland's crime queen.

Finland's rising crime queen Eva Frantz has become known also for her novels for children, all of them featuring adorably creepy suspense. The novels are set in decades and milieus perfectly suitable for ghosts, and they are sure to keep the middle-grade reader glued to the pages.

In *The Mystery of Raspberry Hill*, young Stina, suffering from a lung disease, ends up treated in a sanatorium in the middle of the healing countryside. The building is vast and full of long corridors and echoes. It is also a very lonely place, until one day Stina meets Ruben. The boy starts turning up when they should be sleeping, taking her to nightly expeditions to forbidden parts of the building.

Little by little Stina starts to realize that everything is not quite right in the sanatorium. Why isn't her mother writing back to her? Why do the nurses seem so afraid? What really happened in the fire? And what is Ruben trying to warn her about?

In *Queen of the Night*, 12-year-old Viktor has moved to Helsinki from Paris and is missing home. However, when his mother, an opera singer, gets the role of the Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute*, things start to look up. Viktor makes friends with Agnes, the stage designer's daughter, who seems to have psychic abilities.

Soon it starts to seem there is something spooky and malevolent hidden beneath the foundations of the theatre, particularly to the Queen of the Night. Is Viktor truly ready to intervene and save his mother before it's too late?



In *The Secret of the Helmersbruk Manor*, it is December 1975. 12-year-old Flora Winter and her mother arrive in the small seaside village. →



Eva Frantz (b. 1980) is an author and a journalist at Finnish national broadcasting company. She has written several internationally recognized and awarded crime novels for adults. Runeberg Prize-winning *The Mystery of Raspberry Hill* (2018) was her first book for middle-grade readers, followed by *Queen of the Night* (2021) and *The Secret of Helmersbruk Manor* (2021).

THE MYSTERY OF RASPBERRY HILL, QUEEN OF THE NIGHT, THE SECRET OF HELMERSBRUK MANOR

RIGHTS SOLD

The Mystery of Raspberry Hill

Bulgarian, Perseus; **Danish**, ABC forlag; **World English**, Pushkin Press; **Lithuanian**, Terra Publica; **Norwegian**, Mangschou; **Russian**, Eksmo; **Slovenian**, KUD Sodobnost; **World Spanish**, Fondo de Cultura

Queen of the Night

Danish, ABC forlag; **World English** (optioned), Pushkin Press; **Polish**, Widnokrag

The Secret of Helmersbruk Manor

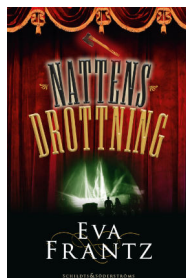
Danish, Straarup & Co; **World English**, Pushkin Press; **French**, Rageot; **Italian**, Edizioni EL; **Polish**, Widnokrag

Christmas is coming, but Flora is not feeling Christmassy: Dad is gone, and Mum needs to work on her book. To do that, she has rented an old cottage on the edge of a big park. In the middle of the park is an abandoned manor.

But why does Flora hear the clip-clopping of hooves in the night, even though there is no sign of any horses? Who keeps leaving figures from an old nativity scene around the park? And who on earth is Egon, the boy in the green hat who appears in the park now and then and seems to want to make friends with Flora?

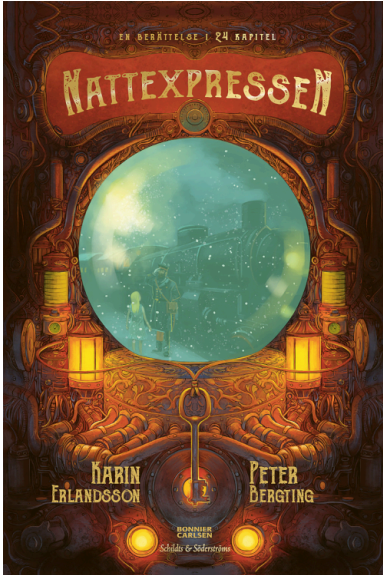
The spine-tingling ghost story about a secret of a manor, gripping and heartfelt, is told over 24 chapters and is a good reading in the run-up to Christmas. The novel is illustrated wonderfully by Elin Sandström.

“Eva Frantz’s book has all the right elements that a pageturner for an avid young readership should have: a proper suspenseful plot and supernatural twists.” – HUFVUDSTADSBLADET NEWSPAPER on *The Mystery of Raspberry Hill*



Karin Erlandsson & Peter Bergting
NIGHT EXPRESS

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

**Nattexpressen***Night Express*Schildts & Söderströms | Bonnier
Carlsen, 2020, 223 pp.

READING MATERIAL:

Swedish original, English sample,
English synopsis

RIGHTS SOLD:

Czech Host Brno**Danish**, Straarup & Co.**Estonian**, Sinisukk**Korean**, KSI**Lithuanian**, Alma littera**Polish**, Dwukropek**Russian**, MIF**Slovak**, Ikar**Ukrainian**, The Black Sheep

All aboard a magical express train heading towards
 Christmas – in 24 chapters!

Dania's granny lives in an old station building next to a disused railway. Every year Dania, her big sister Nanda and their parents move to their grandmother's for December in the run-up for Christmas. Granny has become older and more forgetful during the past years, and sometimes she speaks nonsense. One evening Granny seems exceptionally absent-minded, and then she disappears from her room. The same night Dania hears something and sneaks out to see what is going on. Not believing her eyes, she sees an express train is pulling up at the station.

Dania manages to stop the night train and the adventure begins. She boards the train that returns every night. On the train she meets Konrad, a boy her age, and it soon transpires that everyone on the night train has lost someone they love. But what is the purpose of the key Dania's Granny has been so insistent on? And who has actually lost whom?

An enchanting and wildly riveting story brimming with the magic of Christmas has been a success both in Finland and Sweden. It was awarded Runeberg Junior Prize, Finland's second biggest children's book award.



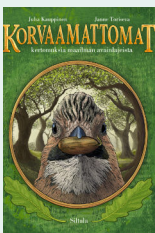
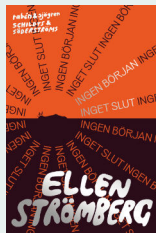
Karin Erlandsson (b. 1978) is a Finnish author writing in Swedish, who has previously published a four-part series of children's novels called *Song of the Eye Gemstone*. The first novel of four, *Pearl Fisher* (2017) received the Runeberg Junior Prize and was nominated for the The Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize, similarly to the fourth novel *Victor* (2019) and *Night Express* (2020).

Peter Bergting (b. 1970) is one of Sweden's most famous illustrators. He has done illustrations and covers to numerous books for children, young adults as well as general fiction.



III. Young adult fiction and nonfiction

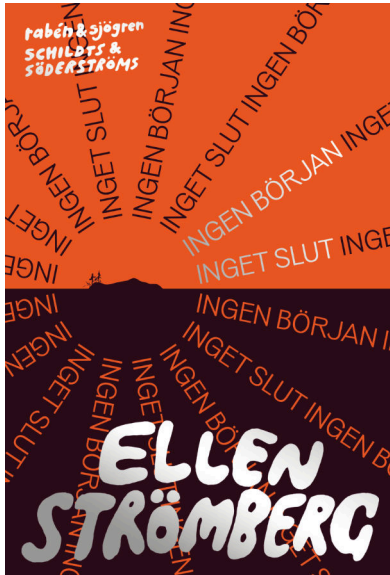
Ellen Strömberg **We'll Just Ride Past**, Juha Kauppinen & Janne Toriseva **The Irreplaceables**, Ellen Strömberg **No Beginning, No End**, Johanna Förster **Circus of Dreams**



Ellen Strömberg

NO BEGINNING, NO END

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

• GRANDBERG-SUMELIUS PRIZE
2025**Ingen början, inget slut***No Beginning, No End*

Schildts & Söderströms, 2024, 221 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, English sample,
English synopsis

A touching and humorous story of magic, loss, and first love.

Benjamin is fourteen, and he's having the worst summer ever. His best friend Olivia is away at a music camp, and Dad has dragged him along on a field trip to the coast, where he and a team of archeologists are researching an excavation site. Dad thinks that the small findings and the stone-lined labyrinth they're working on are intriguing artefacts, whereas Benjamin only sees dusty rocks.

To make things worse, he has nothing to do, no one to be with, and he misses his mom. It's best not to think about her too much, as he is still adjusting to the fact that she's gone forever.

One day Benjamin finally makes a friend, Tristan, but soon realises that something is off: why do the townspeople hate Tristan's family so much? Why does Tristan sometimes act or speak as if he were from another time? Why does he act so strange around Dad's excavation site, of all boring things? And what is the truth about the mysterious labyrinth?

Mixing YA elements with Finnish folklore, *No Beginning, No End* is a moving story of adventure, growth, loss, magic, and first love told in Ellen Strömberg's humorous style that shows how the people who love us never really leave us, even when the opposite seems true. With *No Beginning, No End* Ellen Strömberg returns to YA literature after the wonderful success of *We'll Just Ride Past*, which won her the August Prize in 2022.

We have no beginning, and no end. And if there's one thing I've learned it's that neither do you humans. You are born and you die, you are born and you die, but you never really disappear completely.



Translated by Fiona Graham



Ellen Strömberg is an author and one of the best-known bloggers among Swedish-speaking Finns. Her first novel, the coming-of-age story *Chasing Water* (2018), garnered praise from critics and readers, and was followed by *The Itch* (2019) and the children's book *Maggan All Year Round* (2020). In her latest work, *We'll Just Ride Past* (2022), Strömberg returns to writing about adolescents and that stage of life when the future is wide open. The novel was awarded Sweden's biggest literary award, the August Prize, and it was a nominee for Finland's biggest literary award, the Finlandia Junior Prize. Strömberg lives in Jakobstad in the Ostrobothnia region of Finland.

Ellen Strömberg

WE'LL JUST RIDE PAST

**Vi ska ju bara cykla förbi***We'll Just Ride Past*

Schildts & Söderströms | Rabén & Sjögren, 2022, 251 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, Finnish translation, English sample, English synopsis

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

- AUGUST PRIZE 2022
- NOMINEE FOR FINLANDIA JUNIOR PRIZE 2022
- NOMINEE FOR THE NORDIC COUNCIL LITERATURE PRIZE 2023

RIGHTS SOLD:

Catalan, L'Altra Editorial
Faroese, Bókadeild Føroya lærarafelags**Hungarian**, Metropolis**Italian**, Terre di Mezzo**Korean**, Bluemoose Books**Polish**, Dwie Siostry**Slovenian**, Mladinska Knjiga

This perceptive, realistic novel dives into the world of 15-year-olds on the cusp of the rest of their lives.

It's spring of ninth grade. Manda and Malin are best friends in a small town where nothing ever happens. The girls are known as the Bicycles, because they're always riding around looking for excitement, be it people to hang out with, a party, a little love – everything goes.

When the hottest guy ever in Malin's opinion gets a job at the local pizzeria, life feels like it's finally starting. But is the interest mutual, or is Malin too ordinary? And is she herself really that interested in the end?

*In *We'll Just Ride Past**, Strömberg captures that phase in a young person's life when they see themselves as an adult, when spending time with the family is agony and it's natural to change the way you dress and the music you listen to every week.

"There is a brilliant touch, which makes this one of the most authentic novels I've ever read. Strömberg's prose is quick, fun and suggestive, making the novel also one of the best this spring." – DAGENS NYHETER NEWSPAPER

"Ellen Strömberg has written a young adult novel in which you can nestle and enjoy, many times, like a song you want to listen to on repeat." – HUFVUDSTADSBLADET NEWSPAPER

"Strömberg is skilled at stealthily smuggling in acute observations about friendship, adolescence, and growing up as a young woman. A simple story with a whole other level in between the lines." – NUORI VOIMA LITERARY MAGAZINE on *Chasing Water*



Ellen Strömberg is an author and one of the best-known bloggers among Swedish-speaking Finns. Her first novel, the coming-of-age story *Chasing Water* (2018), garnered praise from critics and readers, and was followed by *The Itch* (2019) and the children's book *Maggan All Year Round* (2020). In her latest work, *We'll Just Ride Past* (2022), Strömberg returns to writing about adolescents and that stage of life when the future is wide open. The novel was awarded Sweden's biggest literary award, the August Prize, and it was a nominee for Finland's biggest literary award, the Finlandia Junior Prize. Strömberg lives in Jakobstad in the Ostrobothnia region of Finland.

Marisha Rasi-Koskinen

THE FALLEN

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

- NOMINEE FOR THE FINLANDIA PRIZE FOR CHILDREN'S AND YA FICTION 2022

**Pudonneet***The Fallen*

Wsoy 2022, 416 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English sample, English synopsis

RIGHTS SOLD

Hungarian, Cerkabella**Lithuanian**, Terra Publica

An ordinary street becomes a maze of mysteries, where reality bends until we question our own perception.

Three young people are seeking to fulfil their dreams in this gripping novel where reality quickly becomes an enigma; an intelligent puzzle with an astonishing solution. The name of the street is Turnaround and it looks like any other small English street. However, an accident in the last house has set something in motion that cannot be stopped. Teenager Ian lives on his own and passionately composes electronic music. Elias has recently inherited his biological father's house on the street and has a dream of developing the perfect role-playing game. When the mysterious K turns up at Turnaround, the fates of the three young people begin to intertwine in an astonishing way.

With her previous YA novel, *The Dark Side of the Sun* (2019), Marisha Rasi-Koskinen won three literary prizes in Finland, including the prestigious Finlandia Prize. The work dazzled readers with its ability to challenge our perception of time. In *The Fallen* Rasi-Koskinen challenges us again, asking how we perceive reality.

Rasi-Koskinen has been described as a literary genius due to her ability to write multi-layered plots that allow her works to be read as an entirely different story on the second reading.

“The novel is captivating in its depiction of the randomness of reality, and how inexorably the lives of the individual young people intertwine and influence each other. *The Fallen* challenges the reader to participate in a merciless game, where the impact of things must be figured out one by one and by combining different perspectives, observations and possibilities. *The Fallen* is masterfully constructed, and its controlled narration is dazzling.”



– FINLANDIA PRIZE JURY



Marisha Rasi-Koskinen (b. 1972) is an award-winning authors of fiction and YA fiction and has published seven works. With a Master's Degree in Psychology, Rasi-Koskinen seamlessly weaves together narratives about dreams, reality and inner worlds. By combining rich narrative structures with relatable characters, Rasi-Koskinen ensures that readers continue to come back to her novels time and time again.

Marisha Rasi-Koskinen

THE DARK SIDE OF THE SUN



Auringon pimeä puoli

The Dark Side of the Sun

Wsoy 2019, 369 pp.

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

- WINNER OF THE FINLANDIA PRIZE FOR CHILDREN'S AND YA FICTION 2019
- WINNER OF THE JUNIOR YOUNG ALEKSIS PRIZE 2020
- WINNER OF THE BLOGISTANIA JUNIOR PRIZE 2020

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English sample, English synopsis

RIGHTS SOLD

Hungarian, Cerkabella

Lithuanian, Terra Publica

A dystopian YA masterpiece about time travel and totalitarian regimes.

The Dark Side of the Sun is a mysterious thriller about a young woman's journey into her own history that's filled with surprises. This YA novel, which involves time travel and is set in an abandoned mining town, will keep readers on the edge of their seats until the very last page.

Emilia lives in an abandoned mining town with her grandfather. The summer room at the back of their garden has been locked for sixteen years – since Emilia was born and her mother died. The day Emilia finally enters the room, she finds an incredibly realistic-looking drawing – of herself. Emilia starts digging and eventually falls down a hole, which leads her to the mine's terrible secrets as well as details about her own past. Emilia's life changes forever when she dives into the black waters of the mine.

The Dark Side of the Sun is a mysterious story about time and memories, which treads the line between sci-fi and the puzzles of the theory of relativity. At the same time, it's a fascinating adventure and a real thriller. Using her background in psychology, Marisha Rasi-Koskinen tells a thought-provoking coming-of-age story.

"The theory behind the time travel element of the book is convincing and the plot takes many twists and turns. Moreover, the novel provides an interesting illustration of a totalitarian regime and gives insight into the reasons normal, sensible people forget about their own dreams and find themselves falling into extremism." – TURUN SANOMAT NEWSPAPER



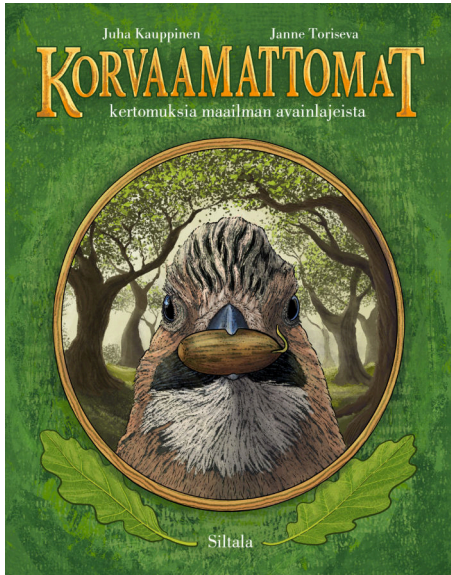
Marisha Rasi-Koskinen (b. 1972) is an award-winning authors of fiction and YA fiction and has published seven works. With a Master's Degree in Psychology, Rasi-Koskinen seamlessly weaves together narratives about dreams, reality and inner worlds. By combining rich narrative structures with relatable characters, Rasi-Koskinen ensures that readers continue to come back to her novels time and time again.



Juha Kauppinen & Janne Toriseva

THE IRREPLACEABLES

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

**Korvaamattomat***The Irreplaceables*

Siltala Publishing, 2023, 95 pp.

READING MATERIAL:

Finnish original, English sample

RIGHTS SOLD

Hungarian, Cerkabella**A magical new voice in young adult literature.**

From the depths of the seas and the darkest forests to fields and deserts and everywhere in nature, there are unsuspecting species whose importance is immeasurable to those around them. They are the keystone species.

The Irreplaceables introduces young readers to such species from all around the world. Among them are the Arctic region's little auk, the green humphead parrotfish of the tropics, lions of the African savanna, the non-biting midges living in almost every body of water on earth, and the North American white oak. These organisms are essential to other species and the interconnected web, the fundamental structure of nature.

Through twenty-nine individual species, a gradual understanding emerges of how nature functions and why protecting it is crucial.

The Irreplaceables, written by Juha Kauppinen in concise, easy-to-read yet knowledge-based abstracts, and vividly illustrated by Janne Toriseva, is an informative book that captivates readers from the middle grades to parents and grandparents.



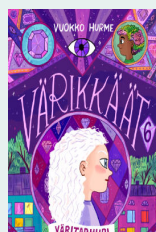
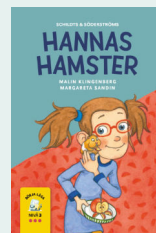
Juha Kauppinen (b. 1975) has written about nature and the environment for the past twenty years and been awarded the Kanava Prize, the State Award for Public Information, and the Bonnier Grand Prize for Journalism. *The Essential Biodiversity: Pathways to the Natural World* (2022) was his cross-over take on the most important question of our time.

Janne Toriseva (b. 1978) is an awarded comics artist and illustrator, who has published several comic books and also written scripts and storyboards for *Angry Birds*. His graphic novel *The Whale* was awarded Critics' Choice Award as Best Finnish Comic in 2019. *The Irreplaceables* (2023) is their first book together.



IV. Young readers' and middle grade series

Malin Klingenberg & Margareta Sandin **I'm a Reader!** series, Vuokko Hurme & Reetta Niemensivu **The Hues** series, Malin Klingenberg **The Senior Squad** series, Karin Erlandsson **Song of the Eye Gemstone** series



Malin Klingenberg

THE CHRONICLES OF GIBAT

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

• WINNER OF RUNEBERG JUNIOR PRIZE 2025



The Sisters of the Desert

Slättens systrar, Chronicles of Gibat #1
Schildts & Söderstöms, 2024, 251 pp.

My Brother Brother

Min bror Bror, Chronicles of Gibat #2
Schildts & Söderstöms, 2025, c. 250pp.

Book #3

Chronicles of Gibat #3
Schildts & Söderstöms, 2026 c. 250 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish originals (books 1–2), Finnish translations (books 1–2), English sample (book #1), English synopses (books 1–2)

Fantastic adventures in a world where sibling love is stronger than any magic.

In *The Sisters of the Desert* (2024) Saba and Sarina live a quiet life with their tribe in the desert, until one day children start disappearing. Soon, the sisters are shocked to find that their father is breaking the rules of the tribe for his personal gain. When the meeting of another tribe brings young Alve into their lives, the sisters start to suspect that their father is hiding from them even more than they thought, and that they have magical powers. It is time for the sisters to decide whether they are willing to turn a blind eye on their father's mischief or take action and risk everything.

In *My Brother Brother* (2025) young Disa lives with her little brother Brother and their mean and good-for-nothing parents, who force them to steal to survive. After a fight with their father forces them to run and leaves Brother with a conspicuous star-shaped scar, the siblings are entangled in events much bigger than them. In a world suddenly full of mysteries, dragons, riches, and shapeshifters, could Brother be the key to bringing peace to the ruler of Gibat? All Disa knows is that she will stop at nothing to keep him safe.

The Gibat Chronicles series is set in a magical world where most adults can't be trusted, and children must find their own power and take control over their own lives. Revolving around the themes of friendship, family ties, and great sibling love, the series will be completed by the third volume, out in 2026.

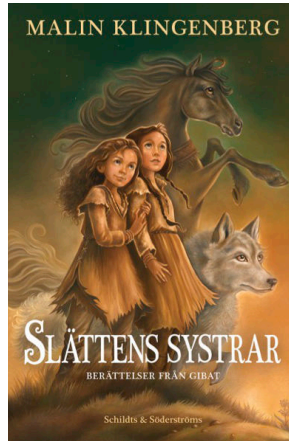
“*Sisters of the Desert* contains all the essential elements of a classic fantasy tale: friendship, family, supernatural powers, and the battle between good and evil.”

– RUNEBERG JUNIOR PRIZE JURY



Malin Klingenberg (b. 1979) is an award-winning Swedish-speaking children's author from Finland. She has written several books for middle grade readers, a number of illustrated children's books, and a young adult novel.

THE CHRONICLES OF GIBAT



Malin Klingenberg & Margareta Sandin

I'M A READER! SERIES

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

**Mormor Mai**

Grandma Mia, I'm a Reader! #1
Schildts & Söderströms, 2021, 28 pp.

Kevins lag

Kevin's Team, I'm a Reader! #2
Schildts & Söderströms, 2021, 28 pp.

Vim och Galonis

Zepper and Waderman, I'm a Reader! #3
Schildts & Söderströms, 2022, 28 pp.

Tims tand

Tim's Tooth, I'm a Reader! #4
Schildts & Söderströms, 2022, 28 pp.

Lådbilen

The Soapbox Car, I'm a Reader! #5
Schildts & Söderströms, 2022, 36 pp.

Hannas hamster

Hannah's Hamster, I'm a Reader! #6
Schildts & Söderströms, 2022, 44 pp.

Ylva syr

Emma Sews, I'm a Reader! #7
Schildts & Söderströms, 2021, 28 pp.

Trötta Lyra

Tired Lucy, I'm a Reader! #8
Schildts & Söderströms, 2023, 36 pp.

Zakir och våren

Zakir and the Spring, I'm a Reader! #9
Schildts & Söderströms, 2023, 44 pp.

With this colourfully illustrated early readers' series, children get to improve their reading skills with fun stories.

I'm a Reader series consists of so far nine books for new readers. Level 1 books include only a small amount of text in capital letters; with these books, the children will get confidence in their reading skills as the book advances easily. On level 2, the text is in lowercase letters, but the amount of text is still small. On level 3, the stories are longer and include chapters.

The stories in the books deal with ordinary issues the children encounter in their daily lives: spending time with family and friends, going to school and playing with friends. At the same time, they are discussing values and teaching skills: good sportmanship, the importance of apologizing, appreciating others, and making a difference.



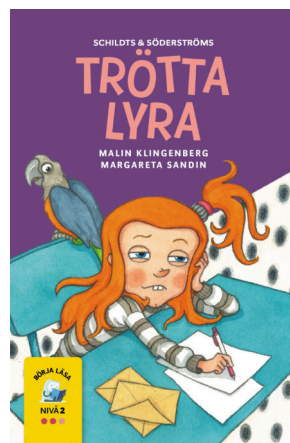
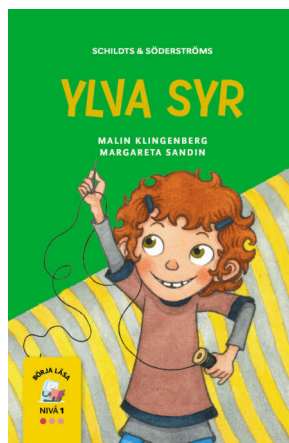
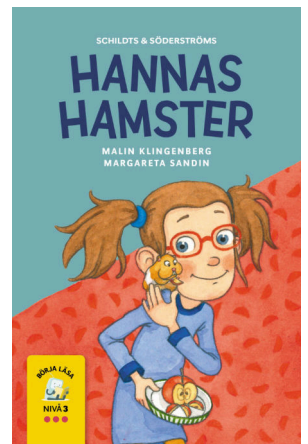
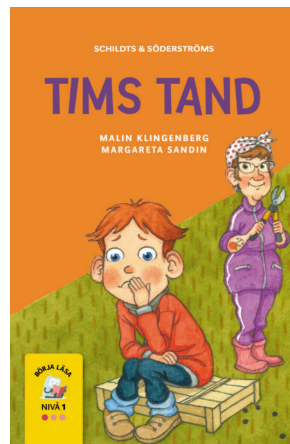
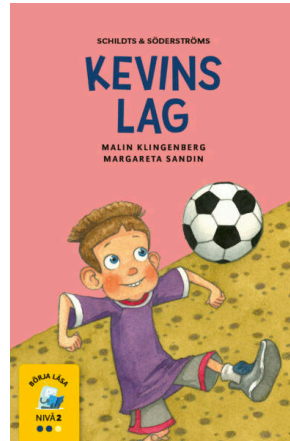
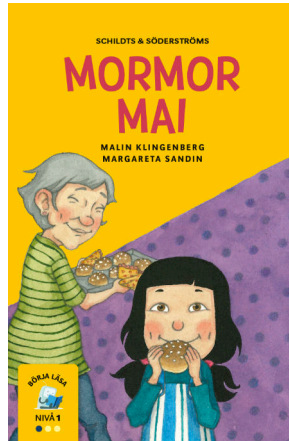
Malin Klingenberg (b. 1979) is a Swedish-speaking children's author from Finland. She has written several books for middle-grade readers, a number of illustrated children's books, and a young adult novel.

Margareta Sandin (b. 1964) is an illustrator who has illustrated several children's books and textbooks. She often focuses on how to show the people's characters and feelings in the illustrations.



I'M A READER! SERIES

READING MATERIAL
Swedish originals, English
translations



Vuokko Hurme & Reetta Niemensivu

THE HUES SERIES

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

• NOMINEE FOR THE RUNEBERG JUNIOR PRIZE 2021

**Tiukun salaisuus**

Ruby's Secret, The Hues #1
S&S, 2020, 199 pp.

Kirjava kartano

Many-Coloured Mansion, The Hues #2
S&S, 2021, 188 pp.

Varjovieras

The Shadow Guest, The Hues #3
S&S, 2022, 184 pp.

Vaara värikylpylässä

Danger in the Colour Spa, The Hues #4
S&S, 2022, 196 pp.

Tulisiskot

The Fiery Sisters, The Hues #5
S&S, 2023, 199 pp.

Väritarhuri

The Colour Gardener, The Hues #6
S&S, 2024, c. 200 pp.

What if you could move objects by willpower?



Ruby's family has a secret: they have wonderful powers of colour. The Hues are able to control the colours of their own possessions, and they can handle them and move them about by willpower. Ruby's colour is red and her big sister Skye's is blue, while their little brother Forrest is still looking for his colour and practising hard.

Ruby's Secret begins when the Hues, hiding their secret skills, move once more into a new neighbourhood. But this time, Ruby no longer wants to be an eternal outsider and decides to make an impression on her new friends.

In *Many-Coloured Mansion*, the focus is on Ruby's sister Skye. When the family takes a trip to a mansion in the archipelago, Skye gets to know Bruno, who can control the colour brown. With their friendship, she starts to learn about Greyness, the creature that thrives on the borders of evil and ambushes those who are not like the others.

In *The Shadow Guest*, Forrest is enthusiastically practicing using his colours: green, blue and yellow. One day the family comes across a surly, mysterious man who is half black, half white. At the same time, Greyness is spreading.

In *Danger in the Colour Spa*, Ruby and Skye spend their autumn vacation with Bruno's family at a colour spa, but it soon turns out there is something strange going on. Has also this something to do with Greyness?

In *The Fiery Sisters*, twins Blaze and Glow travel to the Hues' family mansion to put an end to a chain of fires – they control the colour orange. But soon there is news from home: their brother Bruno has gone missing.

Vuokko Hurme (b. 1979) is a children's author based in Helsinki whose output includes nonfiction, novels and picture books for children. Her middle-grade trilogy, *Rotation* (2017–2019), has been published to a wide critical acclaim. In 2020, she started *The Hues* series with *Ruby's Secret*, which was continued by *Many-Coloured Mansion* in 2021. Hurme has also worked as an art educator, edited nonfiction on parenting and education, written articles on these themes and produced activity materials for children.



THE HUES SERIES

In *The Colour Gardener*, we get to follow Lyra, an ordinary girl and Ruby's best friend. The Hues no longer hide their powers, but celebrate them, And the whole city is excitedly waiting the arrival of a famous Colour Gardener, who fails to show up to the celebrations planned for him. Could more trouble be afoot? And can Lyra save the day, even without superpowers?

Each one of the Hues books has its own colour, used by Reetta Niemensivu in her expressive line drawings.

READING MATERIAL
Finnish original, English sample,
English synopsis

RIGHTS SOLD:
Italy, Mimesis (book #1)



Malin Klingenberg

THE SENIOR SQUAD SERIES



Patrik och Pensionärsmakten

Patrik and the Senior Squad, The Senior Squad #1

Schildts & Söderströms, 2010, 120 pp.

Irene och Sedelsugen

Irene and the Moneyhoover, The Senior Squad #2

Schildts & Söderströms, 2013, 136 pp.

Den falska Bernice

Fake Bernice, The Senior Squad #3

Schildts & Söderströms, 148 pp.

Den fantastiske Alfredo

The Fantastic Alfredo, The Senior Squad #4

Schildts & Söderströms, 2016, 168 pp.

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

- RунеBERG JUNIOR PRIZE 2017
- WINNER OF A CHILDREN'S NOVEL COMPETITION BY SCHILDTS & SÖDERSTRÖMS

Rakels mirakel

Rakel's Miracles, The Senior Squad #5

Schildts & Söderströms, 2017, 192 pp.

Den stora seniorkampen

The Magnificent Senior Match, The Senior Squad #6

Schildts & Söderströms, 2020, 258 pp.

A witty and hilarious middlegrade series about retired people fighting crime.

In a small-town school a boy sits in a class room, deep in thought. He's called Patrik, and today will be the most exciting day of his life, although he doesn't know it yet.

Soon enough the class tearaway, Irene, bullies Patrik into escaping from school. When he ends up on a wrong bus full of pensioners, it appears that one of the senior citizens has been kidnapped – and a group of villains are very interested in taking the other pensioners out of the game too...

In the Senior Squad series pensioners are living a secret life scuppering the evil plans of lowlifes with the help of two clever children, Patrik and Irene. The series includes six books: *Patrik and The Senior Squad* (2010), *Irene and the Moneyhoover* (2013), *Fake Bernice* (2015), *The Fantastic Alfredo* (2016), *Rakel's Miracles* (2017) and *The Magnificent Senior Match* (2020).

The Senior Squad series has been praised for its crazy humor, quirky characters and action-filled plots that are perfect for young readers. The fourth novel of the series, *The Fantastic Alfredo*, was awarded with Runeberg Junior Prize in 2017.



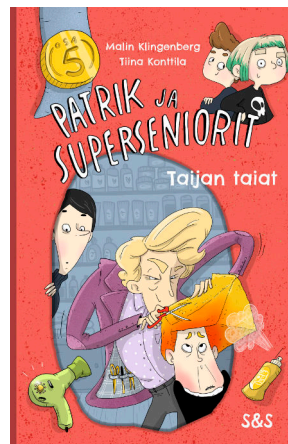
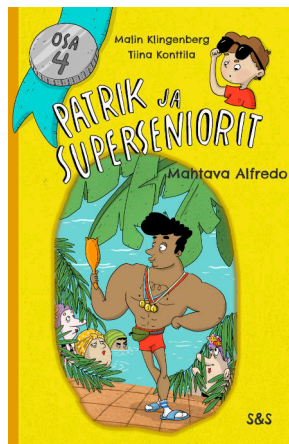
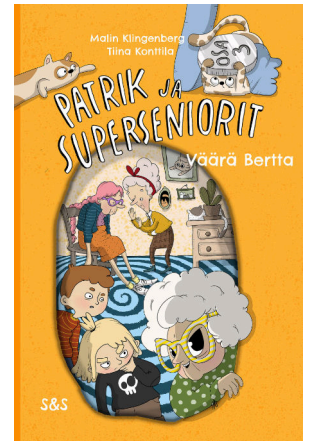
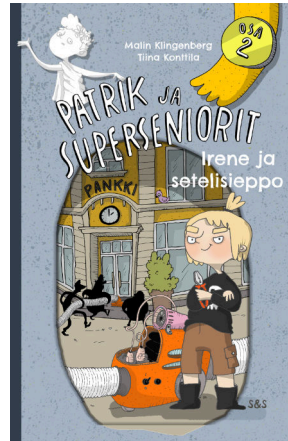
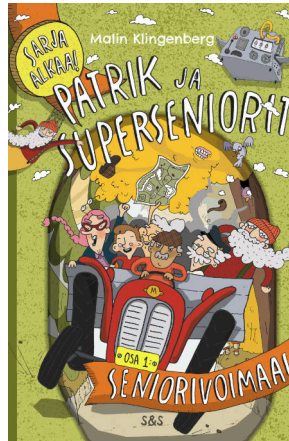
Malin Klingenberg (b. 1979) is a Swedish-speaking children's author from Finland. She has written several books for middle grade readers, a number of illustrated children's books, and a young adult novel.



THE SENIOR SQUAD SERIES

READING MATERIAL
Swedish originals, Finnish
translations, English sample

RIGHTS SOLD:
Azerbaijani, Alatoran (books #1–6);
Bulgarian, Perseus (books #1–4)



Karin Erlandsson

SONG OF THE EYE GEMSTONE SERIES

CHILDREN'S NOVELS

- Rунеberg Junior Prize 2018
- Winner of a Children's Novel Competition by Schildts & Söderströms Publishers



Pärlfiskaren

The Pearl Fisher, Song of the Eye Gemstone #1

Schildts & Söderströms, 2017, 243 pp.

Fågeltämjaren

The Bird Master, Song of the Eye Gemstone #2

Schildts & Söderströms, 2018, 310 pp.

Bergsklättraren

The Scaler of the Peaks, Song of the Eye Gemstone #3

Schildts & Söderströms, 2019, 255 pp.

Segraren

The Victor, Song of the Eye Gemstone #4

Schildts & Söderströms, 2019, 302 pp.

A grand take of friendship, longing – and a kingdom of stories by an awardwinning author.

There is a kingdom where the bottom of the ocean is covered with colourful pearls. There is one pearl that everyone wants – the eye gemstone. The story says that whoever finds it will never need to long for anything anymore, and generation after generation people have left their families to search for it, never returning.

Two girls set out for the hunt: Miranda who believes herself to be the most skilled pearl fisher of all, and small Syrsa who has a rare ability: she can hear the pearls singing, whispering, murmuring... Their page-turning adventure grows in the series of four books to epic proportions: to a grand tale of friendship and what truly matters in life.

The exciting, multi-layered story, located in skilfully constructed world with forests, mountains, fields and seas has been praised by readers and critics.

“Erlandsson masters the elements with virtuosity. Easily and naturally she lets the story billow onwards. It is full of descriptions of the mythical landscapes of the world. It is sharp and clear. It is compelling. [...] Karin Erlandsson’s children’s novel has a broad and obvious appeal, it grows beyond the traditional adventure novel – it challenges the conventions, and at the same time she gimmicks with the genre extremely stylishly. This is a long-awaited start for the return to the children’s novel that follows the FinlandSwedish literary tradition in the very best way.”

– HUFVUDSTADSBLADET NEWSPAPER



Karin Erlandsson (b. 1978) works as a journalist in Åland. She is an awarded author, whose works include also adult fiction and nonfiction. In addition to the Song of the Eye Gemstone series, she has published a middle-grade stand-alone novel *Night Express* (2020) with illustrator Peter Bergting.



SONG OF THE EYE GEMSTONE SERIES

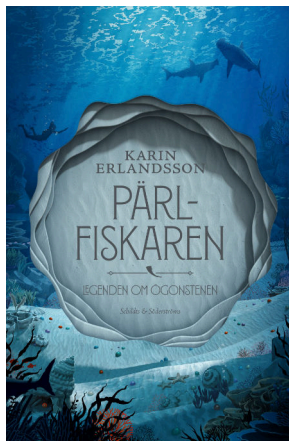
- NOMINEE FOR THE ARVID LYDECKEN PRIZE
- NOMINEE FOR THE NORDIC COUNCIL LITERATURE PRIZE 2018 & 2020

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, English translations, English synopses

RIGHTS SOLD:

Bulgaria, Perseus (books #1-3);
World English, Dedalus (books #1-3);
Estonian, Sinisukk (books #1-3);
Faroese, Bokadeildin (books #1-4);
Polish, Dwukropek (books #1-4)



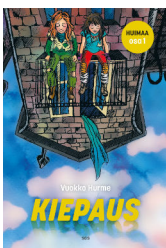
Backlist Highlights



Maija Hurme & Anssi Hurme
Shadowed
 Schildts & Söderströms | S&S,
 2018, 40 pp.
 RIGHTS SOLD
Czech, Cesta domů



Maija Hurme & Anssi Hurme
Secret Gardeners
 Schildts & Söderströms, 2021, 48 pp.
 RIGHTS SOLD
Czech, Host; **World English**,
 Pajama Press; **Estonian**, Ühinenud
 ajakirjad; **Romanian**, Didactica



Vuokko Hurme
 Rotation series
Upside Down | Downside Up | About Turn
 Schildts & Söderströms | S&S,
 2017–2019 RIGHTS SOLD
Estonian, Rahva Raamat (books
 #1–3); **Turkish**, Can (books #1–2)



Anna Härmälä
Postcards from Granma Flyaway
 Schildts & Söderströms,
 2018, 32 pp.
 RIGHTS SOLD
Turkish, Dinozor Çocuk (Ayrıntı
 Yayınları)



Ilja Karsikas
The Unicorn
 S&S, 2022, 48 pp.
 RIGHTS SOLD
Korean, Korean Studies
 Information; **Swedish**, Epix



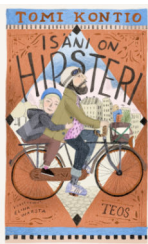
Ilja Karsikas
Storm and Light
 S&S, 2023, 40 pp.



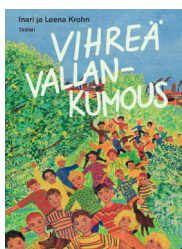
Helmi Kekkonen & Aino Louhi
Topsy Turvy Anna
 S&S, 2019, 48 pp.
 RIGHTS SOLD
Swedish, Epix



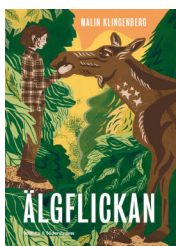
Tomi Kontio & Elina Warsta
A Dog Called Cat series
*A Dog Called Cat | A Dog Called Cat
 Meets a Cat | A Dog Called Cat
 Looking for Home | A Dog Called Cat
 and the Wonder of Christmas
 A Dog Called Cat and the Last Arctic
 Fox*
 Teos Publishers, 2015, 32 pp.
 RIGHTS SOLD
Bulgarian, Raketa (books #1–4);
Estonian, Päike ja pilv (books #1–2);
Hungarian, Koinonia (books #1–4);
Lithuanian, Nieko Rimto (book
 #1); **Romanian**, Pandora | Trei
 Editorial Group (books #1–4);
Serbian, Pčelica (book #1); **Slovak**,
 Ikar (book #1); **World Spanish**, Lata
 de Sal (book #1); **Swedish**, Epix
 (book #1, books #2–3 optioned);
Turkish, Nar (book #1)



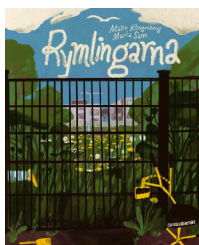
Tomi Kontio & Elina Warsta
My Dad Is a Hipster
Teos Publishers, 2022, 112 pp.



Leena Krohn & Inari Krohn
Green Revolution
Tammi, 1970 [2020], 32 pp.
RIGHTS SOLD
Swedish, Rabén & Sjögren



Malin Klingenberg
Elk Girl
Schildts & Söderströms,
2018, 190 pp.
RIGHTS SOLD
German, dtv



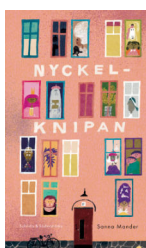
Malin Klingenberg & Maria Sann
The Runaways
S&S, 2024, 36 pp.



Tuomas Kärkkäinen
The Illustrated Book of Awelings
S&S, 2021, 42 pp.
RIGHTS SOLD
Estonian, Elust enesest



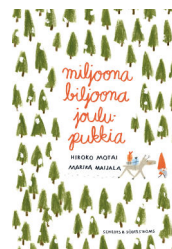
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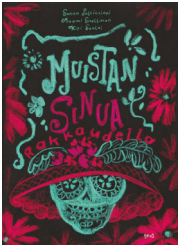
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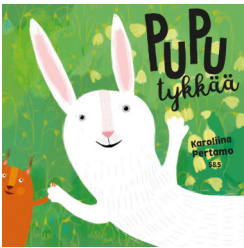
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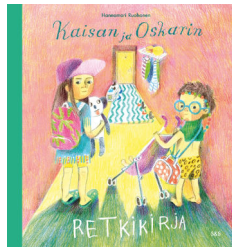
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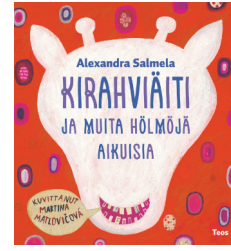
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