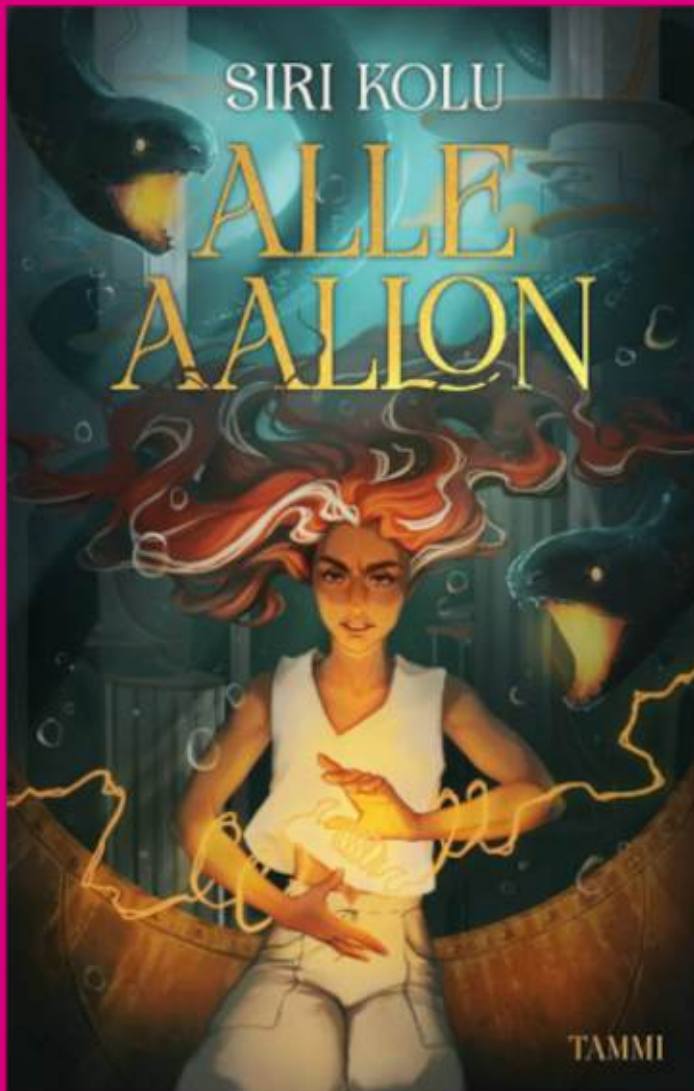


AGENCY

Ahlback

CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT FICTION



DIGITAL SPRING RIGHTS GUIDE 2025

The Marvelous Suitcase

Sanna Sofia Vuori, Silja-Maria Wihersaari

☒ Sanna-Sofia Vuori is a Runeberg Prize and Finlandia Junior Prize nominated children's author

☒ The books by Sanna-Sofia Vuori are cosy read to both children and adults

☒ Traditional and utterly charming illustrations

A charming and enchanting children's tale.

"Daria Duck staggered down the hill, kicking up sand and wobbling her bowler hat. She was on her way to see her best friend, Froberta Frog."

Daria spots a battered suitcase in Froberta's gateway. What on earth could be in it?

One by one, the neighbours turn up at Froberta's house to wonder about the strange suitcase. Each visitor invents a story about what might be inside that reflects their own personality. For example, Simo the Lemon Butterfly's imagination is full of fairies and dew beads. ETTY Snail, on the other hand, thinks the contents will be a rockstar's guitar. Finally, the suitcase is opened and the contents delight everyone!



Original publication: Merkillinen matkalaukku, Tammi, 2025, 40 p

Reading materials:

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.)



About the Author



Photo credit: Frida Lönnroos
Sanna Sofia Vuori

Helsinki-based Sanna Sofia Vuori is a versatile player in the world of children's culture. She has produced a children's literature programme online, the Estridi book club, made children's theatre and brought exhibitions to kindergarten and pre-school children. A Finlandia Junior nominee, Vuori has written several children's books in both Finnish and Swedish.



Photo credit: Otto Virtanen
Silja-Maria Wihersaari

Silja-Maria Wihersaari is a renowned children's book illustrator and pattern designer known for her exquisite illustrations, who has also been awarded for her illustrations.

Stiven

Ted Forsström, Åsa Lucander

Highly recommended for everyone, but especially families with young children, and particularly for those who share their lives with a cat - or perhaps, for those who are ruled by one.

☒ Another fun and exciting collaboration between comedian Ted Forsström and Aardman director Åsa Lucander

☒ The duos previous bedtime story, *STELLA*, was nominated for the Finlandia Prize 2023 in Children's and YA literature

☒ Rights have been sold to 9 languages!

The food is gone! Stiven roars. This is urgent! Come out!

Have you ever thought about how frustrating life can be for a cat? When something as simple as food fails over and over again? For Stiven the Cat, it couldn't be simpler: if there's no food on Stiven's plate, the plate needs to be filled with food. How can an entire family have such a hard time grasping this?

The glutton Stiven is a stubborn drama queen, holding the whole family hostage with one mission: more food immediately! He's a big personality, alternately majestic and pathetic, and neither mom, dad, the child, nor the baby escapes his constant demands for food and attention. This leads to comedic moments in the everyday life of a young family with a pet, brilliantly captured in Åsa Lucander's lively illustrations.

Ted Forsström's text is atmospheric and down-to-earth, with his characteristic playful rhymes occasionally shining through. It's highly relatable for families with young children and especially for anyone who owns a cat—or is owned by one. The duo's previous bedtime story, *STELLA*, was nominated for the Finlandia Prize.

Also available:

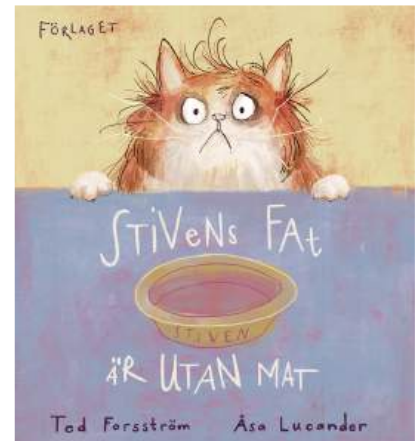
Stella

Stella is full of warmth, playful rhymes and an unusual mix of familiar ordinariness with fantastic antics. Very familiar for anyone trying to combine cozy moments with a pet! *Stella* is a book you can read again and again, night after night.

PRAISE:

Children's books about bedtime are a classic theme, but Ted Forsström and Åsa Lucander create something new by presenting *Stella* from the dog's perspective. (...) The spreads where (in *Stella's* imagination) the kitchen is teeming with squirrels and the living room with dogs is a true treat for the eyes.

– Maria Lassén-Seger, Hufvudstadsbladet newspaper (5 star review)



Original publication: *Stivens fat är utan mat*, Förlaget (orig.), 2025, 44 p

Reading materials: Swedish sample

Rights sold: FINLAND, SWEDEN: Förlaget (orig. Finland-Swedish)



About the Author



Photo credit: Eva Lingon

Ted Forsström is a Finnish-Swedish media personality living in Ostrobothnia. He has worked as a comedian, actor, radio host and author, often as part of the duo Ted & Kaj. Today he works with children's programs on Svenska Yle and talks once a week in Finland's biggest Swedish podcast, *Ted & Kaj*, together with Kaj Korkea-aho.



Photo credit: Karni Arieli
Åsa Lucander

Åsa Lucander works as a director and illustrator for Aardman Animations and has directed shorts and music videos, most recently for Coldplay.

Stella

Ted Forsström, Åsa Lucander

An interactive and playful bedtime story for toddlers featuring a very loud dog with a big imagination!

☒ A unique collaboration between comedian Ted Forsström and Aardman director Åsa Lucander

☒ Nominated for the Finlandia Prize 2023 and rights sold to 9 languages!

☒ Stella the dog's thoughts mimic the lively imagination of toddlers

☒ Features comforting routine and interactive fun: Toddlers will love to join in the repeating tongue twister telling Stella to behave

A father tries to put his child to bed, but keeps getting interrupted by Stella the dog barking hysterically. Something unexpected always happens, and the reader is treated to Stella's lively imagination: it may be a door opening or a car driving by, but Stella is strongly convinced it's Grandma coming to give her food, or that squirrels have built a nest in the toaster.

Anyone who has ever tried to put a child to bed knows how cozy yet fragile the situation is. It requires the right amount of patience and determination. The right bedtime story can be the key to a successful, quiet night. *Stella* is full of warmth, playful rhymes and an unusual mix of familiar ordinariness with fantastic antics.

Stella is a book you can read again and again, night after night.

"In the book, a storytime during a weekday evening derails when the family's dog starts barking. The expressive illustrations and colour palette contribute nicely to the atmosphere of the story and the language is packed with inventive rhymes and details where imagination wins over everyday life. In the work, the cozy weekday evening is interrupted by chaos in a way that gives your laughing muscles a good workout. A guaranteed fun reading time in both Swedish and Finnish."

– Motivation of the Finlandia Prize jury

“Children's books about bedtime are a classic theme, but Ted Forsström and Åsa Lucander create something new by presenting *STELLA* from the dog's perspective. [...] Ted Forsström and Åsa Lucander create a nice variation of the durable theme by letting the chaos-at-bedtime-story be about something different than the expected parent-child fight. In *STELLA* (2023), it is in fact the dog Stella who creates troubles at bedtime.”

Maria Lassén-Seger, Hufvudstadsbladet newspaper (5 star review)



Original publication: Snälla Stella, sluta skälla!, Förlaget (orig.), 2023, 44 p

Reading materials: Full English pdf & Swedish edition

Rights sold: FINLAND, SWEDEN: Förlaget (orig. Finland-Swedish); FINLAND: Etana Editions (Finnish), DENMARK: Gads Forlag, ESTONIA: Tammerraamat, GERMANY: Mixtvision, HUNGARY: Cerkabella, NORTH MACEDONIA: Ars Lamina, POLAND: Widnokrag, SLOVAKIA: Arkus

About the Author



Photo credit: Eva Lingon

Ted Forsström is a Finnish-Swedish media personality living in Ostrobothnia. He has worked as a comedian, actor, radio host and author, often as part of the duo Ted & Kaj. Today he works with children's programs on Svenska Yle and talks once a week in Finland's biggest Swedish podcast, Ted & Kaj, together with Kaj Korkea-aho.



Photo credit: Karni Arieli
Åsa Lucander

Åsa Lucander works as a director and illustrator for Aardman Animations and has directed shorts and music videos, most recently for *Coldplay*.

Little Mouse and the Amazing Universe

Riikka Jäntti

The new chapter books follow the same lovable Little Mouse from the picture books, now all grown up and navigating life as a schoolkid.

- ☒ The Little Mouse series has sold to 21 territories!
- ☒ Sold to Poland pre-publication alongside with LITTLE MOUSE'S HILARIOUS HALLOWEEN (publ. fall 2025)
- ☒ Second chapter book after LITTLE MOUSE'S SCHOOL PICTURE DAY
- ☒ Introducing the beloved picture book character to young readers 5+!

Outer space is so big and amazing!

Another adventure of a relatable little mouse as he goes to school. The kids receive an interesting school assignment from space. Which planet is the largest or smallest? Which one is the best of all?

Hiiru, Lyly and Antero are working together on a presentation about Mars. Grandpa also wants to help, but his book contains outdated information. What might Mars be like, and how many light-years away is the nearest star? Thinking about this makes Hiiru feel very small, even though the universe is such a fascinating place!

Also available:

#1 Little Mouse's School Picture Day

The little mouse boy Hiiru, known from the beloved picture books, is ready for grade school where he'll take on new adventures in illustrated chapter book form! What kind of mischief can happen during a normal school day?

And upcoming Fall 2025: #3 Little Mouse and Hilarious Halloween

Action packed and humorous third book, that takes place during Halloween.

PRAISE:

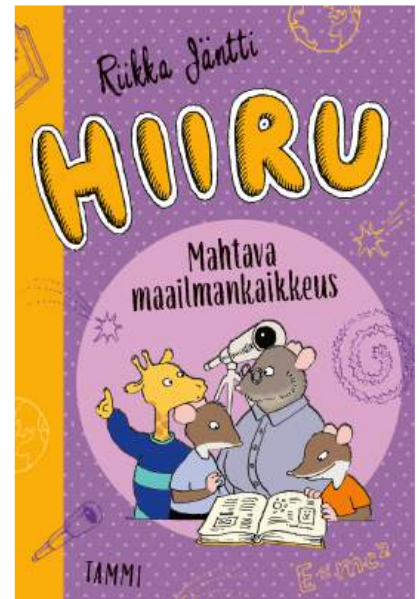
The expressive mice and other characters drawn by Riikka Jäntti are truly unique.

– Kirjavinkit.fi, blog, Finland



"The expressive mice and other characters drawn by Riikka Jäntti are truly unique."

– Kirjavinkit.fi, blog, Finland



Original publication: Hiiru, mahtava maailmankaikkeus, Finland: Tammi, 2025, - p

Reading materials: English PDF

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi, POLAND: Filia

About the Author



Riikka Jäntti, a 2003 graduate of University of Industrial Art of Helsinki, now part of Aalto University, is a Helsinki-based illustrator and author who has created art for both nonfiction and fairy tale books for children. Her first children's book was published in 2005. Jäntti is best known for the adorable *Little Mouse* series that has been sold to 20 territories, including Australia, Nepal, and China!

Dad Man and the Mysterious Puppet Master

Arttu Unkari, Kai Vaalio

The quirkiest cop in town! The Dad Man Series offers fast-paced adventures and humour for all ages – especially lower middle grade.

- ☑ Bestselling series: over 200,000 copies sold in Finland!
- ☑ Rights sold to Germany (2 books) and Denmark (2 books)!
- ☑ Perfect for reluctant readers and for fans of David Walliams and Captain Underpants
- ☑ All books in the series have been nominated for the Storytel awards Best children's audiobook prize!
- ☑ Books in the series have also been recognized with Best Newcomer of the Year 2020, and the Runeberg Prize 2023!
- ☑ Bold and fresh 4-colour comic-book style artwork that add visual jokes to the narration
- ☑ Work as standalones and can be read in any order!

Dad Man is a dad, and a policeman – but he also has a superpower! Too bad his superpower is one shared by almost all dads – an unwavering belief in himself and his own abilities. Dad Man truly believes he knows everything and can do anything, but as it goes with most dads, the reality is quite different. And it follows that Dad Man's nine-year-old daughter Oona needs to solve all of the issues herself.

Book #6:

The wackiest cop in town is messing up again! A fast-paced adventure full of humor for elementary school readers.

A supervillain calling himself the Mysterious Puppet Master robs the Museum of Ancient Diseases and threatens to unleash deadly germs if the city's smartest detective doesn't complete the tasks he's assigned.

Who else but Dadman rises heroically to the challenge, dragging Oona and the gang back into action. They must solve the Puppet Master's riddles before it's too late – and before Dadman ruins everything. Because those tasks? They're not quite as heroic as Dadman thought...

Also available:

#1: Dad Man and the Exploding Poop

#2: Dad Man and the Evil Little Brother

About the Author

#4: Dad Man and the Impossible Time Warp



Photo credit: Kuva Jonne Räsänen / Otava 2019

Arttu Unkari

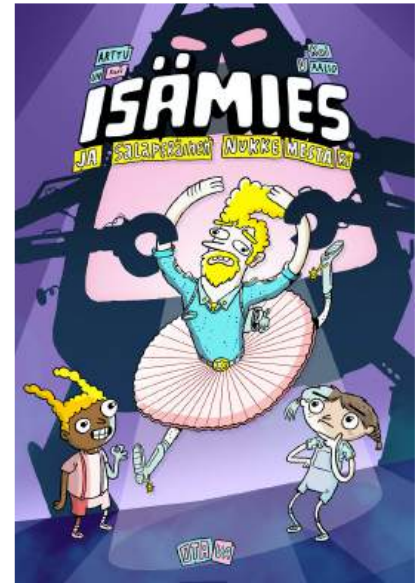
Arttu Unkari is a teacher from Helsinki and a Master of Education (University of Helsinki, 2015) who majored in ethics and philosophy. He combines his educational background and experience as a teacher in his books – his stories are anarchist and zany, but at the same time the humour often revolves around profound and intriguing concepts such as honesty, obedience, and morality in ways that speak to children in their own language.

As an author Unkari is a Runeberg prize nominee 2023 for the third instalment of the Dadman series: *Dad Man and the Horrible Hypnosis* (Isämies ja hyytävä hypnoosi, Otava 2022).



Photo credit: Jonne Räsänen / Otava

Kai Vaalio



Original publication: Isämies ja salaperäinen nukkemestari, Otava (orig.)-, 2025, - p

Reading materials: Finnish pdfs books 1-6, German edition books 1-2, Danish edition book 1, English sample book 4

Rights sold: FINLAND: Otava (orig.)

Kai Vaalio (b. 1986) is an illustrator, comic artist, and a bit of a cosmopolitan as well. He's written and illustrated underground comic books for adults about his travels in South-East Asia and Latin America – the latter won Mondo magazine's Travel book of the year award back in 2014. Recently he's ventured into the world of illustrating children's books mainly with Arttu Unkari's *Dad Man Series*. The Dad Man Series has received Storytel Awards and Runeberg Junior 2023 award nominations.

Vaalio graduated as a graphic designer from Lahti College of Arts and Crafts. In 2018 he got his bachelor's degree from Lahti University of Applied Science.

Bride of Prankenstein

Kaisa Paasto, Mari Ahokoivu

The very popular Prankenstein is back! Well, not quite.

After the previous prank disaster, Elmeri has sworn off pranks for good. No more pranks. At all. Zilch. Until someone starts pulling pranks on Principal Ruustinen, making it look like Elmeri is behind it. And things just keep getting worse...

☒ **Illustrator Mari Ahokoivu won the Puupäähattu Comic Book Award 2023 and has been nominated for the Finlandia Prize in 2021**

☒ **A sequel to PRANKENSTEIN from the successful author-illustrator duo**

☒ **For fans of Diary of a Wimpy Kid**

☒ **The World Spanish rights to PRANKENSTEIN were sold alongside with the rights to Latvia and Poland**

☒ **Full English text available**

Elmeri is excited about the big trip to Stockholm with Mima (the girl next door who's "pretty okay") and the other members of the student council. But now Principal Ruustinen wants to punish Elmeri, and the whole trip is on the line!

It's clear that Elmeri's arch-nemesis Leo is behind all of this – or is he?

The original Prankenstein has to come out of retirement. He can't just rest on his laurels when great deeds are waiting to be done.

Also available:

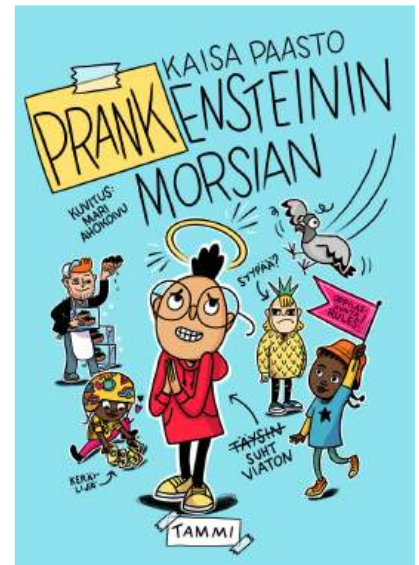
Prankenstein:

The fifth grader Elmeri has never seriously considered a career as a prankster. But he manages to do a superbly great prank – completely accidentally. Elmeri's cousin Robin thinks his chance has come and becomes Elmeri's Personal Prankster Trainer. With his coaching, Elmeri will be the amazing Prankenstein and his best prank will be remembered by future generations!

PRAISE for PRANKENSTEIN:

The tightening plot is built on the suspense that comes waiting for the visit of the president and a magician. [--] Like in Anni the Friend Tamer -series [also by Paasto & Ahokoivu], the strength of Prankenstein lies in its straightforward portrayal of an ordinary family."

–Lastenkirjalyly blog



Original publication: Prankensteinin morsian, Tammi, 2025, 100 p

Reading materials: Full English text

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi, WORLD SPANISH (excl. Spain): V&R Editoras



About the Author



Photo credit: Otto Virtanen / Tammi 2020

Kaisa Paasto

Kaisa Paasto spent her childhood in the north of Finland and now lives in Espoo with her husband, two children and Saku the dog. Kaisa has a master's degree in Comparative Literature and has previously worked as translator, content specialist and entrepreneur. Apart from the Anni books she has published psychological thrillers for adults by Storytel Original.



Photo credit: Antti Ahokoivu
Mari Ahokoivu

Mari Ahokoivu is a Finnish illustrator and a comics artist. She's been drawing professionally for over 10 years, mainly drawing graphic novels and comics for children, including Sanni & Joonas and Lola Olifante. Ahokoivu loves everything cute and scary. She lives and works in Copenhagen.

Mari Ahokoivu won the Puupäähattu Comic Book Award 2023, and together with Laura Ertimo, they won the Tieto-Lauri Award 2022 and were nominated for the Finlandia Prize 2021 for WHERE DID THE ANIMALS GO?!

Little Shop of Nightmares 4: The Crystal Skull

Magdalena Hai, Teemu Juhani

A chapter book series full of quirky characters and inventive plotlines – workdays are never dull in the Little Shop of Nightmares

- ☒ Super success: rights sold in 30 territories!
- ☒ Mystery and horror paired with laugh-out-loud humour for younger middle grade
- ☒ With quirky 4-colour illustrations on every page, this series is perfect for first-time and reluctant readers!
- ☒ Magdalena Hai is the winner of the Finlandia Prize in Children and YA literature 2023!

Nine-year-old Nina starts her job at the Little Shop of Nightmares where she meets a bunch of weird characters – and befriends them! Spooky, quirky, and full of humour, this series for younger middle grade readers ticks all the boxes – no wonder it has been translated in 30 territories!

Book #4: CRYSTAL SKULL:

The Little Shop of Nightmares crew finds out that a pirate sailing competition is coming to town! Competing to be the fastest pirate ship are the Ghosts, the Zombies, the Sirens and the Better Pirates – all of whom want the Crystal Skull that has been given to Mr. Kook for safekeeping at the Little Shop of Nightmares.

When the Crystal Skull suddenly goes missing from the shop, little Nina and her friends start their investigation – and the suspects are a-plenty!

Book #1 The Terrible Tickling Powder: When Nina, 9 years old, enters The Little Shop of Nightmares in hopes of getting a job, she is greeted by an odd sight: shopkeeper Mr. Kook is rolling on the floor, unable to stop laughing.

Book #2 The Mystery of the Missing Teeth: Nina goes to buy ice cream after her first work day at The Little Shop of Nightmares. But at the ice cream shop she discovers a vampire – without teeth!

Book #3 Sticky the Terrible Snowman: The Little Shop of Nightmares is getting buried in snow! Nina and Paddy are trying to find the cause of the snowstorm, but that's easier said than done.



Original publication: Painajaispuoti: Kristallikallon tapaus, WSOY, 2025, 48 p

Reading materials: Full Finnish PDF/Full English text

Rights sold: FINLAND: WSOY (orig.), NETHERLANDS: De Vier Windstreken, PORTUGAL: PRH, SWEDEN: Hegas, TAIWAN: Morning Star

“ *Enchanting series, well-written, with funny illustrations, stimulates children's imagination. A delightful blend of fantasy and humor. The amazing illustrations in each page feature dynamic characters and unexpected goosebumps!* **”**

About the Author **rector, Dioptra, Greece**



Photo credit: Juha Törmälä
Magdalena Hai

Magdalena Hai is an award-winning author, lover of cross-genre fiction and all things strange. Her fiction often combines elements of sci-fi, fantasy and horror.

Her *Little Shop of Nightmares* series has been sold to 30 territories around the world. Among Hai's many accolades are winning the Finlandia Prize for children's and YA literature and the Finnish Literary Export Prize, and being nominated the Nordic Council Children & Young People's Literature Prize.

Besides being an author, Hai teaches writing and is an active member and editor in the publishing co-operative OsuusKumma.



Photo credit: Jonne Räsänen/
Otava
Teemu Juhani

Teemu Juhani is a Finnish illustrator, comic artist and picture book author whose illustrations have been published in picture books and children's fiction in over 20 countries. In addition to children's books Teemu has illustrated magazines and educational material. Originally from the fields and woods of North Karelia, Teemu now lives, works and eats way too many cakes in Helsinki.

Twin World Series: Saving Atlantis

Siri Kolu

A myth-busting, suspense-filled series for a late middle grade and early YA audience.

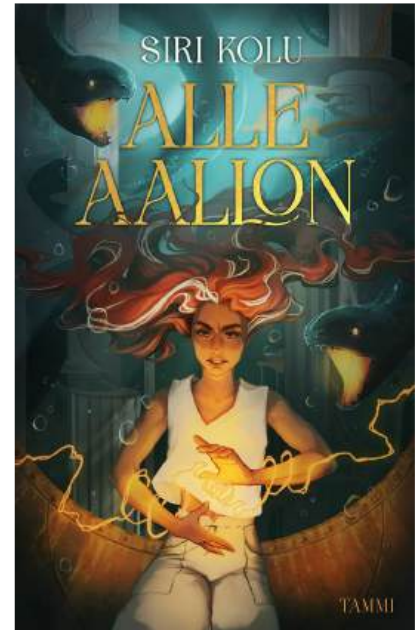
- ☒ Siri Kolu's previous books have been translated to 22 languages
- ☒ She is the winner of 2010 Finlandia Junior Prize, Topelius Prize and has been awarded in the Netherlands with Silver Slate Pencil Award
- ☒ For the readers of Susan Cooper: Above Sea, Below Stone series and Rick Riordan's myth books

Can Atlantis be saved before disaster strikes?

12-year-old El(ektra) starts sleepwalking and has recurring nightmares of masses of water under which there is no escape. After doing research with her friends Maxxam and Cal, El discovers that the underwater city in her nightmares is ancient Atlantis.

In the city of Atlantis, young Elektra has strange dreams at night about tall glass towers and flying planes. With inventor genius Dobro, Elektra begins to test whether the visions could be real. Based on the dreams, they build a submarine called a wave diver.

Can the Elektras help each other? Can they be rescued from under the waves...and what would it cost?



Original publication: Alle aallon, Tammi (orig.), 2025, 150 p

Reading materials: Finnish edition, English sample (7.3.2025)

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.)

About the Author



Siri Kolu (born July 18, 1972) is a writer, performance dramaturg, director, and theater teacher. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Theatre Arts and Bachelor of Arts degree as Drama Instructor (BA). Her works have been translated into over 20 languages.

Darkclaw

J. S. Meresmaa, Elina Äijälä

A chillingly creepy, gorgeously illustrated horror series begins.

- ☒ Winner of the 2024 Tähtipöllö Award
- ☒ Tied for second place Kuopus Award 2024
- ☒ Engaging middle-grade horror, with mystery and heart-pounding adventure!
- ☒ Captivating and relatable variety of characters
- ☒ J. S. Meresmaa is a winner of 2023 Kuopus Award, and a nominee in 2023 for Kuvastaja Award and Tähtifantasia Award
- ☒ Her picture book *I Am Not Afraid* has been translated to Estonian.

13-year-old Aapo has moved to the village of Black Gorge. One day he sees a mysterious character whose tattoo bears a striking resemblance to the one his recently deceased grandfather had. Could it be a coincidence? When Aapo ends up playing disc golf near the woods of Lumola Manor, it seems that there are other strange things going on in the village. Aapo encounters his first monster - and the estate is full of them.

While not all the monsters living in the manor are dangerous, some of them are. Aapo begins to have nightmares about the looming darkness. Soon he finds himself caught in the middle of events, where dreams and truth mix into an unstoppable vortex.

PRAISE:

Meresmaa opens her middle-grade horror series brilliantly, successfully crafting a relatable and intriguing cast of characters while posing several open questions. The story's beginning is a compelling hook that piques just the right amount of curiosity for what's to come.

– Ilkka Valpasvuo, Kulttuuritoimitus, Finland



"J. S. Meresmaa has created a captivating setting in the first book of the Monster Manor series, with suitably layered and relatable main characters that invite identification." -

Päivi Heikki-Halttunen, Lastenkirjahyly blog, Finland



Original publication: Pimeänkyntsi, FINLAND: Otava (orig.), 2024, 152 p

Reading materials: Finnish PDF, English sample (coming soon)

Rights sold: FINLAND: Otava (orig.)

About the Author



Photo credit: Outi Puhakka
J. S. Meresmaa

J. S. Meresmaa (b. 1983, she/they) is an award-winning Finnish author who mainly writes fantasy and other speculative fiction.

Meresmaa's backlist includes the epic fantasy series Mifonki, two short story collections, two YA novella trilogies, a vampire duology and verse novels, to name a few. Many of her short stories have been translated into languages other than Finnish. Meresmaa's YA verse novel Dodo won the Blogistania Kuopus Award and was nominated for the best YA novel in 2020 (Topelius Prize). Mifonki series received a Kuvastaja Honorary Mention in 2021.



Photo credit:
Elina Äijälä

Elina (they/them) is an illustrator whose main inspirations include fantasy, folklore and horror.

Benjamin Bateman and the Wicked Sidekick

Hannele Lampela, Pasi Pitkänen

What if your superhero costume looked like a butterfly and your only superpowers would be having a good heart and a lively imagination? Welcome to the embarrassing life of Benjamin Bateman!

- ☒ Award-winning and bestselling series by writer-illustrator super team Hannele Lampela and Pasi Pitkänen!
- ☒ Film in development!
- ☒ Rights sold to Denmark (3 books!)
- ☒ Nominee for the Arvid Lydecken Award 2023
- ☒ Series sold almost 25,000 copies

Benjamin Bateman's seemingly ordinary math teacher, Mr. Saunder, turns out to be none other than his terrifying arch-nemesis, Sir Jekku. Even worse, Sir Jekku has teamed up with Mortem, a sinister figure who has tormented the Bateman family for generations. But could there be a third villain in their midst – someone pretending to be Benjamin's friend?

In the fourth thrilling installment of the *Benjamin Bateman* series, the dark truth finally emerges: why does Mortem delight in hunting down members of the Bateman family? Grandpa holds a grim secret – one that led to Mortem's very existence. But how can you defeat an arch-nemesis who only grows stronger from fighting, conflict, and chaos?

Could it be that Benjamin's greatest superpower – his kind heart – is the key to resolving the entire adventure?

Benjamin Bateman and the Wicked Sidekick flips traditional hero stories on their head, proving that the strongest hero isn't always the toughest, and that enemies aren't defeated by cruelty or violence.



Original publication: Paavali Pattinen - Katala kätyri, Otava, 2025, - p

Reading materials: English synopsis, English sample book 1, Finnish text, Danish edition books 1-2

Rights sold: FINLAND: Otava



About the Author



Photo credit: Niki Strbian
Hannele Lampela

Hannele Lampela's lovable works have been praised above all for their rich humor and ability to truly show the world from a child's perspective. She has the ability to enchant her readers, and that is why both children and adults love her stories. She has been awarded the prestigious Kaarina Helakisa Prize for her work and she has been nominated for Runeberg Junior award in 2019 and for Storytel Award, and Arvid Lydecken Award four times, most recently in 2023. In addition to her fictional works, Lampela has written and created a world of stories for the next national ABC book of Finnish schools.



Photo credit: Jari Riihimäki
Pasi Pitkänen

Pasi Pitkänen has become known for his richly detailed illustrative work on several children's books such as the *Monster Nanny* trilogy by Tuutikki Tolonen, as well as his own picture books like *Monster Tournament*. He has also worked at Rovio Entertainment as an illustrator, character designer and graphic designer for *Angry Birds*.

Count Silently To Ten

Laura Lähteenmäki

A novel about friendship, growing up, and the importance of childhood play

☒ Nominated for the Nordic Council's Literature Prize 2024!

☒ Rights sold to Estonia, Germany, Italy and Poland!

A novel about friendship, growing up, and the importance of childhood play

☒ Nominated for the Nordic Council's Literature Prize 2024!

☒ Rights sold to Estonia, Germany, Italy and Poland!

Myy, Viivi, Heta, Aada, and Camilla are a close-knit group of five girls who call themselves Pätkikset. But as the fourth grade draws to a close, Myy finds that something has changed. She feels that she's no longer part of the gang. She notices that lively conversations fall silent when she approaches her friends. When the girls hug each other in a tight circle, there's no room for Myy.

Count Silently to Ten is a story about friendship between girls and the changes that come about as you grow up, but which are difficult to accept. Myy is left out and feels that there may be something wrong with her, since she still wants to play and isn't interested in make-up and growing up. As things become difficult with the girls, a new boy in the area provides a wonderful opportunity for Myy to throw herself into the world of play. Myy and Lassi run to a nearby forest and immerse themselves in a joint game where time and space disappear.

The novel describes a summer on the border between childhood and adolescence. Although the book depicts childhood in our time, the portrayal of play captures the timeless charm and power of childhood games.



"Anyone who is (or once was) ten years old will identify 100% with this girl caught between childhood and growing up struggling to find her place. A beautifully told, finely observed children's book about the power of friendship."

- **Wiebke Anderse, Editor, Carlsen Verlag**



Original publication: *Laske salaa kymmeneen*, FINLAND: WSOY (orig.), 2023, 206 p

Reading materials: English sample & synopsis, Full Swedish translation, Finnish edition

Rights sold: FINLAND: WSOY (orig.), DENMARK: Straarup & Co., ESTONIA: OÜ Hea Lugu, GERMANY: Carlsen Verlag GmbH, ITALY: Terre di mezzo, POLAND: Muchomor, SWEDEN: Lilla Piratförlaget

About the Author



Laura Lähteenmäki is a Finnish writer of children's and youth literature. Since her debut youth novel in 1998, she has written around twenty works. Lähteenmäki writes about young people's lives and their search for a place of their own. She was awarded the Arvid Lydecken prize for a first-class children's novel for her book *Marenkikeiju* in 2007 and her work has also been nominated for the Topelius and Finlandia Junior prizes. Her latest novel *Count Silently to Ten* was **nominated for the 2024 Nordic Council Literature Prize!** Laura Lähteenmäki lives in Jyväskylä and, in addition to her work as a writer, she is executive editor in a publishing house.

The Secret Staircase

Salla Simukka, JP Ahonen

What would you do if you found a secret room in your house? A story about friendship and two boys in two worlds.

- ☒ Nominated for the Finlandia Prize 2024 in Children's & YA Literature!
- ☒ Estonian and Czech rights sold!
- ☒ Grounded fantasy with a classic feel for fans of Michael Ende and Maria Gripe
- ☒ Salla Simukka is the recipient of the Topelius Prize 2013 and Finland Prize 2013 and has been nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award every year since 2021. Her *Snow White* trilogy was sold into 53 territories
- ☒ JP Ahonen is a comic book artist and illustrator whose unique *Belzebubs* project has achieved cult status internationally

An exciting and touching novel about two boys, who live in the same house but in different realities. Can their friendship cross the border separating two worlds?

10-year-old Alexis' family moves to a house where he gets the attic room. Another 10-year-old-boy, Max, moves to a house, where a great basement room is waiting for him. Soon the boys notice something weird in their houses: Alexis hears voices under the floor, even though they don't have a basement. Max's ears pick up someone playing an instrument from the attic, even though no one is there.

When the two boys finally meet, they realize that they can visit each other's worlds at night time. But will their friendship endanger everything when the worlds start to blur into each other?

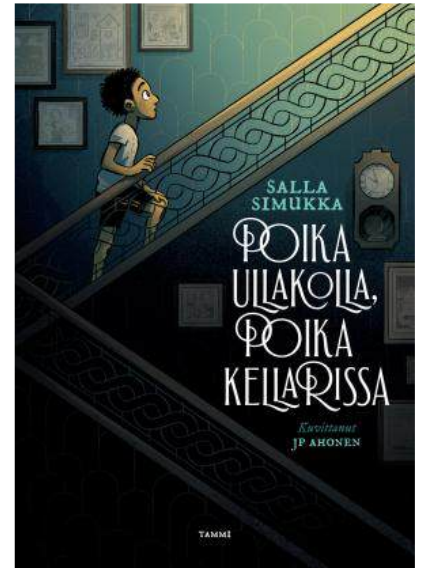
"The Secret Staircase is a stylish and fascinating children's novel. [--] The cooperation of the author-illustrator duo works well: the illustrations by Ahonen bring a nice atmosphere to Simukka's fascinating story. The two parallel worlds have small differences and there is a pleasant weirdness for the reader to ponder on."

–Mikko on kirjavinkit.fi



In this tantalisingly evocative fantasy, the text and vivid illustrations merge into a fine, polished whole. The story is about solving mysteries, making great friends and adapting to huge changes, whether it's family or the vastness of dimensional boundaries. The narrative is engaging and the illustrations add delicious detail with a lightness of touch that encourages the novice reader to move forward.

– The FINLANDIA PRIZE 2024 JURY



Original publication: Poika ullakolla, poika kellarissa, Tammi, 2024, 200 p

Reading materials: English sample & synopsis, Finnish edition

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.), CZECHIA: Portál, ESTONIA: Ühinenud Ajakirjad

About the Author



Photo credit: Outi Puhakka/Tammi
Salla Simukka

Salla Simukka is the author of the international success story *The Snow White Trilogy*: rights are sold in 53 territories and in Hollywood. She has written several novels for young readers and her accolades include the Topelius Prize 2013 and the Finland Prize 2013. Simukka has been nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award every year 2021–2024. *Where It All Begins*, published in 2022, is her first novel for adults and in 2024 she started a collaboration with JP Ahonen on a middle grade novel.



Photo credit: Marjaana Malkamäki
JP Ahonen

JP Ahonen (1981) is a comic book artist, illustrator, and the author of several newspaper strips in his native Finland. He is best known for his graphic novel *SING NO EVIL* and the critically acclaimed strip series *BELZEBUBS*, which has evolved from a humble webcomic into a unique cross-media project, interweaving comics, music and animation.

The Manticore

Maria Turtschaninoff, Peter Bergting

A middle-grade novel and supernatural thriller that turns a young girl's emotions into a magic-realistic fantasy adventure – can her new stepmother be trusted or is she a dangerous ancient monster?

☒ Danish and Ukrainian rights sold!

☒ Maria Turtschaninoff is a two-time winner of the Society of Swedish Literature Prize, a winner of the 2014 Finlandia Prize and has been nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award every year 2020-2024! Her children's and YA titles have sold to 30 languages.

☒ **TANGLED ROOTS (Inherited Land)**, Maria Turtschaninoff's first adult fiction novel, has been awarded the prestigious Swedish YLE Literature Prize 2022 and sold to 23 languages

☒ **Peter Bergting** is one of Sweden's most renowned comic book artists and fantasy and children book illustrators.

A middle-grade novel and supernatural thriller that turns a young girl's emotions into a magic-realistic fantasy adventure – can her new stepmother be trusted or is she a dangerous ancient monster?

The Manticore is a highly illustrated middle grade novel. This supernatural thriller is told from the perspective of a young girl called Li, who starts suspecting that her stepmother is in fact a Manticore, an ancient monster intending on devouring the protagonist and her baby brother. She realizes that no one can help her because no one would believe her. So as the Manticore starts fattening up the children, the protagonist hunts for a way to defeat her. She soon realizes that the only way to kill a Manticore is with a mythical object: the horn of a unicorn. But where can she possibly find one?



Original publication: Mantikoran, SWEDEN: Raben & Sjögren/Förlaget (orig.), FINLAND: Tammi, 2024, - p

Reading materials: Full English PDF & Swedish edition

Rights sold: SWEDEN: Raben & Sjögren/Förlaget (orig.), FINLAND: Tammi, DENMARK: Bogoo, UKRAINE: V. Books - XXI/The Black Sheep

“ We're extremely excited about publishing Mantikoran in Denmark. The book portrays all the right elements of horror and dark fantasy (nicely balanced) that we were looking for in a supernatural thriller for children; from the exciting characters to the eerie atmosphere depicted through this well-woven tale

” off, which has been splendidly illuminated through the beautiful illustrations by Peter Bergting. We're absolutely thrilled to add this title to our list.



Photo credit: Veikko Somerpuro/Tammi
Maria Turtschaninoff

Maria Turtschaninoff is known for **off**, which has been splendidly illuminated through the beautiful illustrations by Peter Bergting. We're absolutely thrilled to add this title to our list. **Maria Turtschaninoff** is known for **off**, which has been splendidly illuminated through the beautiful illustrations by Peter Bergting. We're absolutely thrilled to add this title to our list. **Maria Turtschaninoff** is known for **off**, which has been splendidly illuminated through the beautiful illustrations by Peter Bergting. We're absolutely thrilled to add this title to our list. **Maria Turtschaninoff** is known for **off**, which has been splendidly illuminated through the beautiful illustrations by Peter Bergting. We're absolutely thrilled to add this title to our list.

Her *Red Abbey Chronicles* YA trilogy has been sold into 30 languages, while her first adult novel *Tangled Roots* has been sold to 23 territories. Maria has a Master of Arts in human ecology and works full-time as a writer.



Photo credit: author's photo, no credit needed
Peter Bergting

Peter Bergting is one of Sweden's most renowned comic book artists and fantasy and children book illustrators. His career began in the late '80s, providing art for games such as *Mutant Chronicles*, *Dungeons & Dragons* and *Vampire*. In 2006 he released his first comic book for Image Comics, and has illustrated more than 44 comic books. He's the author and/or artist of more than 50 books, and has provided cover and interior artwork for hundreds of titles.

Peter has been nominated for the August award twice, for "Kråkorna", and "Vi kommer snart hem igen". In addition, he has won the Adamson statuette.

Girls Girls Girls

Ilona Ahti, Daniela Hakulinen

A novel about three different high school girls experiencing larger-than-life events, a refreshing break with traditional expectations. A future classic with lots of crossover potential from YA to NA!

☒ From the celebrated writer duo behind the award-winning film "Girl Picture", Finland's 2022 Oscar entry, which won 4 Finnish Oscar's (Jussi Awards) including Best Film and Screenplay

☒ Winner of the 2022 Audience Award in the World Cinema Dramatic Competition at Sundance Film Festival, and Best Children's & Youth Film and Youth Jury Prize at Nordic Film Days Lübeck, and Best Narrative Feature at OUTshine Miami

☒ The film screened at over 30 festivals worldwide, such as BFI Flare (UK), Berlin International Film Festival (Germany), and Sundance Film Festival (USA).

☒ The film was distributed in 20 countries including Germany (Salzgeber & Co); US (Strand Releasing), Eastern Europe (HBO Europe) and Korea (Watcha)

In frosty Helsinki, the lives of three teenage girls change over the course of three weekends. They discover sex, love and friendship, but most of all, they discover their own voices.

Mimmi has decided not to believe in love, while her best friend Rönkkö thirsts for connection. The two work together at a smoothie bar, where one day they meet Emma.

The figure skating prodigy Emma finds herself in the middle of a bet on whether you can fall in love with just one look. Mimmi and Emma quickly form an irresistible bond, the kind of attraction between them that Rönkkö dreams of. In the end, each of them must ask themselves what they are prepared to fight for.

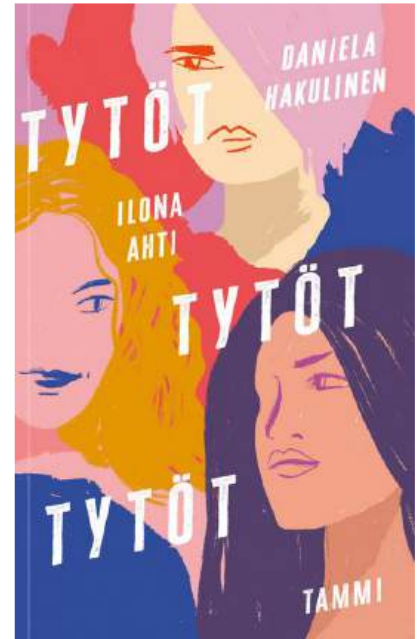
PRAISE FOR THE MOVIE

"Its breezy humor comes with a razor sharp script, a sophisticated structure and visual flair, making it a confident and compelling contender." - Anna Smith, Deadline Hollywood Daily, USA

"The film focuses on finding identity as well as strong relationships. Romance and friendship are given equal weight in terms of their importance which is great to see. ... Every part of *Girl Picture* just works." - WLWfilmreviews.com, New Zealand

“Its breezy humor comes with a razor sharp script, a sophisticated structure and visual flair, making it a confident and compelling contender.”

Anna Smith, Deadline Hollywood Daily, USA (about the film)



Original publication: Tytöt tytöt tytöt, Tammi, 2025, 171 p

Reading materials: Finnish edition, English sample & synopsis (February 2025)

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.)

About the Author



Photo credit: Tomi Lounio
Ilona Ahti

Ilona Ahti is a Finnish screenwriter and author with an MA in both Screenwriting (Aalto University) and Social Sciences (University of Helsinki). She has been to all continents, except Antarctica, and lived in most of them.- She has co-written the Sundance World Cinema Dramatic Audience Award winning and Finnish Oscar nominee feature film "Girl Picture". She is currently developing several screenplays in both tv and film. She has also published the *Stop Secret* novel series and other works of fiction.



Photo credit: Otto Virtanen
Daniela Hakulinen

Daniela Hakulinen (b.1984) is a film and television screenwriter who grew up in Northern Finland and later moved to Helsinki. *Girl Picture*, co-written with Ilona Ahti, made history by being the first Finnish feature film selected for the international competition at the Sundance Film Festival. Hakulinen and Ahti won the Jussi and Sylvi prizes for their screenplay. In addition to film, Daniela Hakulinen writes television series, works as a dramaturg and teaches screenwriting. *Girls Girls Girls* is her debut novel.

Deep in the Woods

Päivi Lukkarila

Four very different teens sent on a smartphone-free wilderness expedition...

Luka feels like he's in high school only to satisfy his parents. Why bother with something you're not interested in?

Sabina's relationship with Nella has ended. Nella liked her when she was just "conveniently" queer, still girly and sporting long hair. Now that Sabina has decided to be who she always wanted to be, Nella has left her. How do the other three participants in the hike feel about her?

Nasim, from Nokia, dreams of studying literature and becoming a writer, but is constantly confronted with prejudice.

Joel is convinced that one day he'll be a world-famous stand-up comedian. Comedy's tough, and it's easy to overdo it when you're trying to make people laugh. Joel tells a very different story about his background. What's real, and what is he making up?

The expedition is only supposed to last three days, but a fateful event changes everything and the teens have to survive in the wild without their guide. They try to entertain each other with ghost stories, and as they tell them, their own frightening childhood experiences come back to haunt them. There seems to be something creepy about their surroundings. What was it in there that spooked all the tourists and will the four be left to wander the wilds until their final days?



"Päivi Lukkarila's DEEP IN THE WOODS also aptly demonstrates that one compelling - and perhaps even the most effective - way to spark the interest of picky and reading-averse young people is to write such a gripping story that they simply can't put it down."

– Päivi Heikkilä-Halttunen, Helsingin Sanomat



Original publication: Skutsi, Nokkahiiri-, 2024, 200 p

Reading materials:

Rights sold: FINLAND: Nokkahiiri (orig.)

About the Author



Päivi Lukkarila, born in 1967, is a Tampere-based author known for her sensitive yet realistic portrayal of young people's lives and emotions in her novels. In addition to the Finlandia Prize, she was awarded the Klara Prize in 2024, which is granted for an outstanding easy-to-read book for children or YA in Finnish or Swedish. She has also won the Tampere City Literature Prize twice. Furthermore, her books have been nominated for both the Arvid Lydecken and Anni Polva literary awards. In addition to her work as an author, Lukkarila teaches Finnish language and literature.

Lumina

Heidi Roth

An YA adventure fantasy of the ancient North and the shaman girl Lumina.

☒ "Harry Potter meets Lord of the Rings" Nordic mythology story

☒ Unique mix of Finnish mythology & adventure with fantasy elements

☒ Rooted in Nordic folklore, Lumina introduces readers to unique characters, ancient runic spells, and timeless lessons

☒ Full English manuscript available!

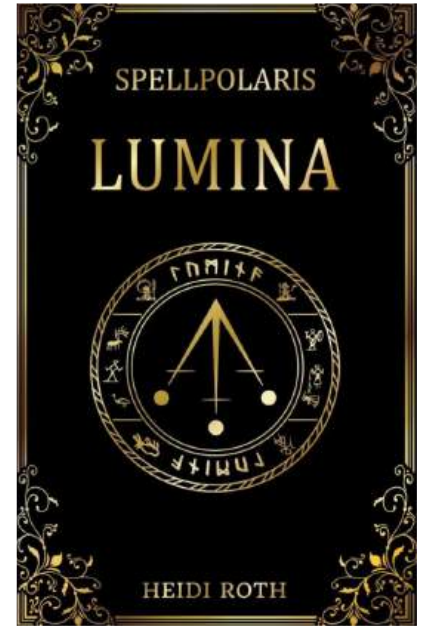
An YA adventure fantasy of the ancient North and the shaman girl Lumina.

Lumina lives in the mythological world called Middler and she is being trained as the next shaman of her bear tribe. Lumina needs to get the power of the forest and water people and the secrets of spell poems in order to increase her knowledge. However, the threat of Louhi, the ruler of Pohjola, is hovering over Middler, and there are signs which lay the shadow to their lives.

When the forest people; human-like goblins take Lumina's friend and loved one, warrior son Kaleva to Underer, a world beneath of Middler, Lumina's adventure begins. Lumina must find out why the Firefoxes have come down from the sky and burned half of Middler's land.

In her journey, she meets other fellow travellers'; Deer King who used to be the ruler of the North, Tonttu who is a mysterious elf and Sumua who is the daughter of the Forest King Tapio. All of them have their own strengths and they become good friends. With the help of the learned shamanic skills, Lumina is able to see the secrets of the three worlds, from the Middler through the dark shadows of Underer all the way to the Abover, the realm of the ancient northern gods.

The storyworld has been designed on the basis of the Finnish and Karelian mythology as well as the national epic: Kalevala.



Original publication: Lumina, Spellpolaris, 2024, 375 p

Reading materials: Full English text,- English sample, Finnish edition

Rights sold: FINLAND: Spellpolaris (orig.)



About the Author



Heidi Roth (b.1979) is an author from Helsinki, Finland, who has written three books; the crime novel *Sin Factory (Syntitehdas)* 2013, the historical thriller *Bloodline (Verivanat)* 2017 and fantasy adventure *Lumina*, 2024.

Roth holds MBA in marketing and Master of Arts in media production. She has worked in marketing and communications at the National Museum of Finland and as a commercial producer at the broadcaster MTV Oy. Roth currently works in marketing and communications at internationally known congress and event venue Finlandia Hall. The author has also been living in five different cities around the world (Los Angeles, Manchester, Phuket, Milan and Mexico City).

The Horned God

Magdalena Hai

Creeping horror for the YA audience

- ☒ Winner of the Laivakello Prize 2024!
- ☒ Winner of the Finlandia Prize for children's and YA literature of 2023! Nominated for the Topelius Prize of 2024!
- ☒ Rights sold in 8 languages & a bestseller in Finland with over 6,000 copies sold
- ☒ Magdalena Hai's books have been sold in over 27 territories and she has been nominated for several prestigious awards (Finlandia Prize, Nordic Council Literature Prize)
- ☒ Magdalena Hai is the winner of the Finnish Literary Export Prize (2017) and Kaarina Helakisa Prize (2020)

When death touches your life, everything changes.

Lauri wakes up in the hospital after a fatal car crash and he doesn't remember much about it. Mom is dead and now life has changed drastically.

When Lauri starts his slow recovery in a small town at his aunt's house, he has an unpleasant feeling that everything is not right. The dead don't stay dead and the beautiful neighbor Vilja-Maaria doesn't want to live. When an ominous creature with antlers appears behind the window, Lauri begins to see nightmarish dreams that feel too real.

"There is a strong atmosphere in this year's winning book. In addition to the mood, there are fascinating, neat sentences and important themes in the book, such as the selflessness of parental love, self-accusations, anti-racism, coronavirus, the acceptance of loss. And horror. If I had to justify my selection with three sentences, I would not need three sentences. I don't even need three words. [–] I would love to see this [book] as a film directed by Hayao Miyazaki."

– Herra Ylppö, Finlandia Literature Prize 2023 in children's and YA literature grand juror



17-year-old Lauri wakes up in hospital after a car accident. His mother has deceased, and father is in a coma in hospital. The horror story beautifully links the descriptions of recovering from a big loss, the grueling presence of awful things, the guilt caused by mistakes and the act of letting go. The novel which influences the reader on many levels also describes in a lively matter the everyday life of teenagers, experiences of mental health struggles, and racism. Below the horror elements there is an undercurrent that ties people together. At times in a painful way.

– The 2024 Topelius Award Jury



Original publication: Sarvijumala, Otava, 2023, 162 p

Reading materials: English sample and synopsis
Finnish edition
Norwegian edition

Rights sold: FINLAND: Otava (orig.), DENMARK: ABC Forlag, ESTONIA: Päike & Pilv, HUNGARY: Metropolis, NORWAY: Gursli Berg Forlag, POLAND: Greg, SLOVENIA: Didakta, SWEDEN: Epix, UKRAINE: Bohdan

About the Author



Magdalena Hai is an award-winning author, lover of cross-genre fiction and all things strange. Her fiction often combines elements of sci-fi, fantasy and horror.

Her *Little Shop of Nightmares* series has been sold to 30 territories around the world. Among Hai's many accolades are winning the Finlandia Prize for children's and YA literature and the Finnish Literary Export Prize, and being nominated the Nordic Council Children & Young People's Literature Prize.

Besides being an author, Hai teaches writing and is an active member and editor in the publishing co-operative Osuuskumma.

Meet the Hedgehog Family

Hannu Laakso

Animal Family Series

From the pure Nordic nature! Hannu Laakso's gorgeously photographed Animal Family series is an easy-to-read book suitable for animal lovers of all ages.

☒ Hannu Laakso is a renowned photographer, having won over 130 international awards!

☒ Hannu Laakso's Animal Family book series received an award from the Finnish state in 2023

☒ Meet the Fox Family and Meet the Bear Family sold to Italy!

☒ Great read for the whole family!

☒ Encouraging children to read books while inspiring them on nature

Through intimate and vibrant photographs, follow the adventures of animal families - and learn.

Little hedgehogs who have wandered off without a mother have been rescued by an animal protection society, soon to be released back into the wild. The tiny hedgehogs rejoice on the first day of their second life, but then strange things start to happen. The babies are threatened by a beast they have never seen before. Is curling up into a ball still enough to defend themselves?

The Animal Family series' adventurous stories and stunning photographs inspire children to read and strengthen their connection with nature. The Animal Family series includes: *Meet the Fox Family*, *Meet the Bear Family*, *Meet the Wolf Family*, *Meet the Bird Family* and *Meet the Reindeer Family*. The latest book in the series, MEET THE HEDGEHOG FAMILY, is a readers' request!

Laakso mixes vibrant and intimate photographs with playful yet educational text from a baby animal's point of view. The series helps readers understand nature with an up-close view of the lovable animals.



"The narrative gives space for the pictures to tell their own story, and the reader gets to experience situations that could be difficult to believe without the evidence of their own eyes."

- State Award for Public Information jury on the Animal Family Series



Original publication: Me siiliset, Into, 2025, - p

Reading materials:

Rights sold: FINLAND: Into (orig.)

About the Author



Photo credit: Mikko Palonkorpi
Hannu Laakso

Hannu Laakso is a Finnish photographer and writer, who is fascinated by the purity of Nordic nature. He has won a Finnish state award for this children's Fun & Facts book series, which introduces us to urban and rural wildlife. He bought his first SLR camera in 1982. In 2014 he finally decided to start participating in international photography competitions. He has received 130 international photography awards, and well over 500 unique photos have been accepted to international photo exhibitions in more than 80 countries.

The Secret Ones

Tuutikki Tolonen, Anne Vasko

Unleash your creativity and discover the creatures who live right next to you in secret! This delightful picture book invites young readers to look at ordinary homes with new eyes.

- ☒ Czech and Polish rights sold!
- ☒ Encourages imaginary play & playful interactions between parents and children
- ☒ Tuutikki Tolonen is an Arvid Lydecken award-winning author and her *Monster Nanny* series has been sold into 37 territories!
- ☒ Anne Vasko is the recipient of the Rudolf Koivu illustration award 2010 and has been nominated for the Finlandia Junior 2010 and for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (2017 & 2021). Her books have been sold to over 20 territories.

This charming picture book invites its readers to play a game: could there be secret creatures, living side by side with humans in ordinary homes? They leave signs to those who know where and how to look.

Why are there crumbs on the kitchen floor? Perhaps you have a crumbscraper living with you! The creature itself is so shy, you can rarely see it. How about the holes in your socks; did you know they might be the result of a lintbug? And when the remote control is lost again, maybe the amnesianos have stolen it.

THE IDEA:

The Secret Ones is born from play: what if, all around us in a perfectly normal home lives secret creatures, of which we know nothing of? Could they be found if one looks the right way? Surely even the most secret creature will leave traces; footsteps, food crumbs, angled paintings on the wall.

SYNOPSIS:

The narrator guides the reader around in a familiar-looking home environment (kitchen, living room, the hall) and shows the signs they've found of the secret creatures. The narrator tells the reader of the creatures and their ways of living. Many everyday things are explained: why there are always breadcrumbs under the table, why holes appear in socks, why hair ties, remote control, and transport pass are always lost. And why an uninhabited house has a different feeling than an inhabited one – that too is explained.

THE GOAL:

The creators wish that the book invites one to take part in the play, to look at the familiar everyday environment with new, investigating, and playful eyes: who could live here? What can we deduce of them based on these clues we've found?



Original publication: Salaiset, WSOY, 2024, 40 p

Reading materials: English PDF, Finnish edition.

Rights sold: FINLAND: WSOY (orig.), CZECHIA: Portal, POLAND: Widnokrag



About the Author



Photo credit: Otto Virtanen
Tuutikki Tolonen

Tuutikki Tolonen is the author of several acclaimed children's books, plays and academic articles. For *Monster Nanny* she received the Arvid Lydecken award. She teaches creative writing and has worked as an editor and reporter at *Vinski*, a Finnish literary magazine for children.



Photo credit: Milka Alanen
Anne Vasko

Anne Vasko is an internationally known Finnish children's author and illustrator who has created visual worlds for numerous children's books, both her own and written by others. She is the recipient of the Rudolf Koivu illustration award 2011 and has been nominated for the Finlandia Junior, and also for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award in 2017 and 2021. Vasko graduated with a master's degree in art from the Aalto Arts Helsinki.

Princess Rascal and the Dark Fairy

Elina Hirvonen, Mervi Lindman

A picture book about being scared of the dark

Shows day-to-day challenges of families with children with a lot of warmth and humor

Rights in series sold into 5 languages

Would a crown of courage or a string of pearls with happy things help in the dark?

Beloved Princess Rascal is a little girl with big feelings and magical powers. The popular picture book series continues!

Princess Rascal stays awake all night, because there's a monster under her bed. No one believes that, but Princess Rascal knows it's true. She feels that no one else has such big worries and that no one else is even afraid of anything! Somehow this problem has to be solved: could there be something in Princess Rascal's toy box that could help?

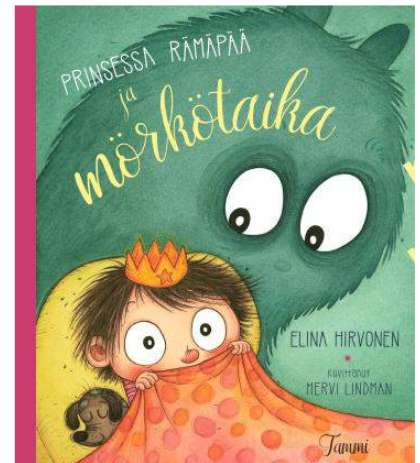
The Princess Rämöpää series by Elina Hirvonen and Mervi Lindman takes the reader on magical adventures that can be found right in the middle of everyday life, as long as you have enough imagination.

Also available:

Princess Rascal (2017)

Princess Rascal and the Potty Words (2019)

Princess Rascal and the Quarrel Spell (2021)



Original publication: Prinsessa Rämöpää ja mörkötaika, FINLAND: Tammi (orig.)-, 2024, 44 p

Reading materials: English sample & synopsis, Finnish edition

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.)

“Everybody quarrels once in a while, no need to be scared of it. The difficult topic of the book never becomes too gloomy, because the solution-oriented Princess Rascal takes action. Mervi Lindman's delicate and colorful illustrations also maintain positivity.”

– Turun Sanomat newspaper (Princess Rascal and the Quarrel Spell)

About the Author



Photo credit:
Elina Hirvonen

Elina Hirvonen is an award-winning author of adults' and children's prose and documentary filmmaker whose works have been translated into many languages. Hirvonen's debut novel, *When I Forgot*, made the front page of *The New York Times Book Review*, and received rave reviews from the *Independent*, *Guardian*, *Financial Times* and *Globe and Mail*.

Hirvonen has won the Kalevi Jäntti Prize, the Young Aleksis Prize, has been nominated for the prestigious Finlandia Prize. She has received the prestigious 2023 Werner Söderström Osakeyhtiö Literary Foundation Award, recognizing the artistic independence and high standard of her writing.

Her new novel, *The Logbook of Love*, was published in Finland in August 2023. *The Logbook of Love* is the first part of a trilogy of novels that create their world through conversations.



Photo credit:
Mervi Lindman

Mervi Lindman is a much-loved illustrator whose cheerful artworks have been published in 19 different countries to date. Lindman's illustrations have been regularly appraised by critics and public alike.

Little Mouse Goes on a Cruise

Riikka Jäntti

Adorable bestselling picture book series about a little mouse and its everyday adventures.

- ☒ Rights for the series sold in 21 territories!
- ☒ Features lovely retro-style illustrations and family life with a toddler!
- ☒ There is a book for every occasion!
- ☒ Can be read and published in any order!

The Little Mouse series is an international bestseller with rights sold in over 20 territories. The stories focus on the toddler Little Mouse, who lives with Mummy Mouse and has fun and exciting adventures, whether they go camping, playing in the park, or cleaning up the house in preparation for guests. The lovely illustrations and familiar scenarios make the series relatable for children.

Book #10:

Little Mouse is excited, for it's his first trip abroad! Little Mouse packs his backpack, sets off to the port with Mummy Mouse and aunt Lizzie, and walks through a big pipe to get on board. Even though everything on the cruise ship is big, the cabin is surprisingly small. How will it feel to sleep when the waves lull the boat?

On the other shore there's a rainy but beautiful city which is fun to explore. But what kind of experiences will the journey home bring?

Also available:

- # 1: Little Mouse
- # 2: Little Mouse Helps Out
- # 3: Little Mouse's Christmas
- # 4: Little Mouse's Holiday
- # 5: Little Mouse's Winter
- # 6: Little Mouse's Summer
- # 7: Little Mouse's Goes Camping
- # 8: Little Mouse and the Birthday Present
- # 9: Little Mouse Welcomes Spring

And for some mousified fairy tales, check out: Little Mouse's Fables



Original publication: Pikku hiiri laivalla, Tammi, 2024, 48 p

Reading materials: Finnish pdf

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.), POLAND: FILIA



About the Author



Riikka Jäntti, a 2003 graduate of University of Industrial Art of Helsinki, now part of Aalto University, is a Helsinki-based illustrator and author who has created art for both nonfiction and fairy tale books for children. Her first children's book was published in 2005. Jäntti is best known for the adorable *Little Mouse* series that has been sold to 20 territories, including Australia, Nepal, and China!

The Fox and Silence

Reetta Niemelä, Eri Shimatsuka

A new collaboration between the winner of the Arvid Lydecken Award 2022 Reetta Niemelä and Marimekko textile artist and illustrator Eri Shimatsuka

Once upon a time there was a fox the colour of a copper pot. He had very long and sensitive ears. Loud noises keep hurting the fox's ears. It had to dig deeper and deeper into his den to get to rest his ears. Where does the fox find silence? How would the other creatures in the forest understand that the silence is like a hammock, where one can safely fall asleep?

This beautiful story discusses sensibility and the need for silence. The touching text by award-winning poet and children's author Reetta Niemelä is paired with charming illustrations by textile artist Eri Shimatsuka. *The Fox and Silence* is Eri's debut children's book.



Original publication: Kettu ja hiljaisuus, Otava, 2022, 32 p

Reading materials: Full English PDF

Rights sold: FINLAND: Otava (orig.), JAPAN: Iwanami Shoten Publishers, LATVIA: Latvijas Mediji, TAIWAN: ACME



The book plays in an interactive way with the reader. The narrator speaks directly with the reader and comments on the mistakes of their narration. The reader is also invited to try using their little fingers as earplugs and to write to the fox about a place where one can find silence. [-] The smooth surfaces, twisting burrows of the animals and hefty tree trunks radiate the peace of a forest.

Marianna Lammi in Kuvittaja Magazine

About the Author



Photo credit: Uzi Varon
Reetta Niemelä

Reetta Niemelä is an award-winning children's author. She has written poetry collections, picture books, nonfiction, study material and many beloved book series for children. For her work, she's been awarded e.g. Kaarina Helakisa Award and for her nonfiction the Tietopöllö award. Niemelä's fantasy novel Black Moon Inn, illustrated by Katri Kirkkopelto, won the Arvid Lydecken Award, was nominated for Finlandia Junior and was selected as the audience favourite.

Topics related to nature and especially animals are recurring themes in Niemelä's work. She wants to focus on how literature and language can give a voice to the silent ones.



Photo credit:
Eri Shimatsuka

Eri Shimatsuka is a Helsinki based Japanese designer and a writer.

Her designs are inspired from Nordic nature and fragments of everyday life. She designs for different brands in Japan and Finland such as Marimekko and Lapuan Kankurit.

She has written many books about Finnish design and everyday life.

'Kettu ja hiljaisuus' with Reetta Niemelä (2022) is her first illustrated picture book.

Itty Bitty Princess and the Truth About Babies

Hannele Lampela, Ninka Reittu

Why on earth would parents want a baby that poops a lot and wakes them up in the middle of the night?

☒ **Bestselling series, 650,000 copies sold!**

☒ **Itty Bitty Princess film released in 2024 and second one in development!**

☒ **Rights for the bestselling standalone picture books featuring Itty Bitty Princess have been sold to 6 territories**

☒ **Hannele Lampela has been awarded the prestigious Kaarina Helakisa Prize for her work and she has been nominated for the Runeberg Junior award 2019, the Storytel Finland Award 2020, and Arvid Lydecken Award four times, most recently in 2023**

Where do annoying little siblings come from? Itty-Bitty Princess figures out the icky truth about babies in her own bold manner.

Of course, Itty-Bitty Princess knows that babies grow in mothers' tummies. But how did they end up there? And how do they get out? And most importantly: why on earth would parents want a baby that poops a lot and wakes them up in the middle of the night?

This charming picture book by Hannele Lampela, illustrated by Ninka Reittu, provides answers to children's puzzling questions about babies but also touches on the emotions that big sisters and brothers go through, when they hear a baby is about to arrive.

Also available – Itty Bitty Princess chapter books (40pp-80pp, 5+):

Itty Bitty Princess (2016)

Itty Bitty Princess's Winter (2017)

Itty Bitty Princess's Slightly Better Bedtime Stories (2018)

Itty Bitty Princess and The Horrible Injustice (2019)

Itty Bitty Princess's Summer (2020)

Itty Bitty Princess's Slightly Better Singalongs (2020)

Itty Bitty Princess Takes Over the World (2021)

Itty Bitty Princess and The Amazing Amusement Park (2023)

“Itty Bitty Princess and the (Awful) Truth About Babies is a warm, funny and sweet story that will solve many questions and will save some grownups from having that “uncomfortable” talk. Most important of all, Itty Bitty brings to the conversation the diversity and richness among all families, parents, siblings and guardians.”

-María José González Camarena, Children's and YA Managing Editor

About the Author



Photo credit: Niki Strbian
Hannele Lampela

Hannele Lampela's lovable works have been praised above all for their rich humor and ability to truly show the world from a child's perspective. She has the ability to enchant her readers, and that is why both children and adults love her stories. She has been awarded the prestigious Kaarina Helakisa Prize for her work and she has been nominated for Runeberg Junior award in 2019 and for Storytel Award, and Arvid Lydecken Award four times, most recently in 2023. In addition to her fictional works, Lampela has written and created a world of stories for the next national ABC book of Finnish schools.



Photo credit: Vesa Tyni
Ninka Reittu

Ninka Reittu is an illustrator and children's book writer.

Reittu lives in an old clergy house in Liperi, Finland, with her son and carpenter husband. Their family also includes two cats, several dogs, and a flock of sheep.

In addition to her own picture books *Messi ja Mysteeri* and *Sinä olet superrakas*, she has illustrated the titles of Hannele Lampela (*The Itty-Bitty Princess*) and Kreetta Onkelin.



Original publication: Prinsessa Pikkiriikki ja (kaamea) totuus vauvoista, Otava, 2022, 32 p

Reading materials: Full English PDF

Rights sold: FINLAND: Otava (orig.), DENMARK: Turbine Forlaget, ESTONIA: Kirjastus Elust Enesest, ITALY: Fabbri Editori, WORLD SPANISH: Planeta Mexico

Pet Agents 10: The Hobby Horse Whisperer

Riina Kaarla, Sami Kaarla & Anders Vacklin

KATI-E is an independent girl who loves animals just as much as electronics and coding. TI-BOT is the flying robot Kati-e built. Together they are the PET AGENTS, and their mission is to solve pet problems!

- ☒ A delightfully illustrated series for robot fans and animal lovers alike!
- ☒ Over 60 000 copies sold in Finland
- ☒ Series already sold in 8 territories!

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- ☒ A delightfully illustrated series for robot fans and animal lovers alike!
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The Pet Agents series is a delightful series about friendship and pet care, filled with adventures. Each book - which can be read in any order - features new characters, locations, and pets from miniature pigs to virtual dinosaurs. Engaging, full of humour, and dealing with animal issues in a child friendly way, the series has charmed readers in Finland and internationally.

Book #10:

The animal-loving Kati-e, robot Ti-bot, neighborhood friend Timi and the computer wizard X end up on a therapy farm, where the animals are in dire need of help. But to save the farm, Kati-e first needs to help a girl recovering from an accident to find her lost horse.

Also available:

- #1: New Pets & New Friends!
- #2: Tracking a Thief
- #3: Charging Ahead
- #4: Lost in the Game
- #5: In Deep Water
- #6: Snowed In
- #7: Wild City
- #8: Mission on the Moon
- #9: Masters of the Jungle



About the Author

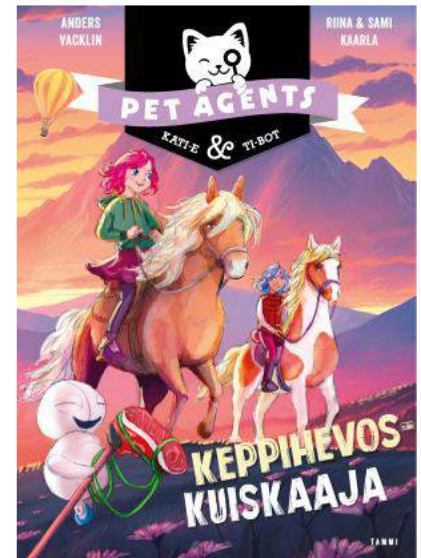


Photo credit:
Riina Kaarla, Sami
Kaarla & Anders
Vacklin

Riina Kaarla is a passionate author-illustrator and a creative dynamo, whose internationally published books are especially beloved for their true-to-life and vivid characters.

Sami Kaarla has worked as a professional writer-illustrator for more than a decade. He has written and illustrated dozens of internationally renowned books. He writes and illustrates the YA Nordic Horror series, the Pet Friends and Pet Agents series, and Moomin books based on Tove Jansson's beloved characters, with his wife, Riina. Still, he finds time for his four sons, four cats, and two dogs who inspire him every day.

Anders Vacklin is a prize-winning drama writer, also publishing fiction and non-fiction. He is also a creative writing teacher and script consultant who has helped hundreds of writers tell their stories. Anders writes and illustrates the YA Nordic Horror series and Pet Friends series with Riina and Sami Kaarla.



Original publication:

Keppihevoskuiskaaja. Pet Agents 10, Tammi, 2024, 176 p

Reading materials: English synopsis-
English series presentationEnglish pdf book
1

Rights sold: Tammi

Pet Friends 5: Om

Riina Kaarla, Sami Kaarla & Anders Vacklin

- ☑ Funny and adventure-filled series for animal lovers and robots fans alike!
- ☑ Fresh quirky 4-colour artwork
- ☑ Teaches children about animals and pet care

The Pet Friends series is a standalone prequel to hugely popular Pet Agents, telling the story of how Kati-e and Ti-bot became a team and solved their first agent missions. Aimed at a slightly younger age group, this is the perfect series to read with young animal enthusiasts!

Book #5:

In the fifth Pet Friends book the first grader Kati-e, who hosts the pet column in school magazine, becomes an investigating journalist together with her robot Ti-bot. They meet curious cats in the school, and sense a scoop! The cat-and-mouse game is like catnip to anyone who loves a proper adventure - or the purring of a cat!

Also available

#1: Bit and Mode

#2: Mop

#3: Bean

#4: Mir



Original publication: Om.
Lemmikkifrendit 5, Tammi, 2024, 128 p

Reading materials: English synopsis-
English series presentationfull English text
book 1

Rights sold: Tammi

About the Author



Photo credit:
Riina Kaarla, Sami
Kaarla & Anders
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Stop Secret Mysteries: Stinker the Horrific Sock Monster

Ilona Ahti, Miila Westin

- ☒ Winner of the Runeberg Junior Honorary Prize 2024!
- ☒ Miila Westin is a Finlandia Junior Prize winning illustrator (2020) and her books have been sold into 14 languages!
- ☒ Ilona Ahti is an award-winning TV and film script writer and co-writer of the Oscar nominated film *Girl Picture*
- ☒ Independent sequel coming in fall 2024

A funny middle-grade mystery series for fans of Roald Dahl

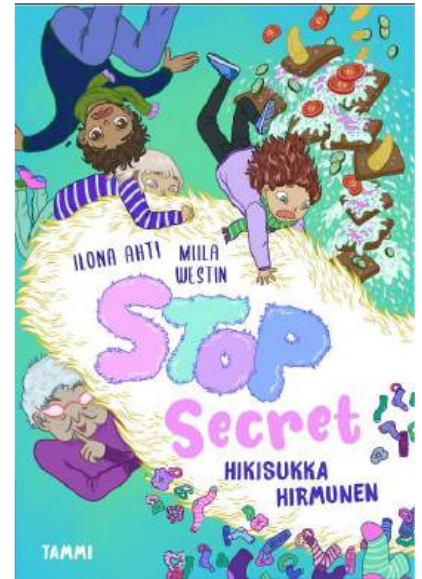
The sock-trap has been set! A sock-monster, Stinker, is on the loose!

In the opening of this charmingly funny middle-grade series, top-secret cases are being solved. Why are there only odd socks in the cabinet, and where have the hairclips and remote controls vanished?

The peculiar events begin when a strange creature snatches the last pair of socks from ten-year-old Hilla. She catches a glimpse of a fluffy, golden tail and finds a color-changing hair as evidence. A top-secret mystery must be solved, in which Hilla is helped by her neighbors Maisa and Roni-Toni. Hilla's grandmother Mitsi clearly knows more than she's telling, and in the end there's an explanation for everything that no one would have expected...

▲ *capturing something essential about the everyday life of children. This is what makes it such a fascinating book: simply incomprehensible things are mixed in with the ordinary and everyday. And when everything is tied together by the mystery in the story, that's when you have all the ingredients for a gripping title.*

Runeberg Prize Jury



Original publication: Stop Secret. HIKISUKKA HIRNUMEN, FINLAND: Tammi (orig.), 2023, - p

Reading materials: English sample-Finnish manuscript

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.)

About the Author



Photo credit: Tomi Lounio
Ilona Ahti

Ilona Ahti is a Finnish screenwriter and author with an MA in both Screenwriting (Aalto University) and Social Sciences (University of Helsinki). She has been to all continents, except Antarctica, and lived in most of them. She has co-written the Sundance World Cinema Dramatic Audience Award winning and Finnish Oscar nominee feature film *"Girl Picture"*. She is currently developing several screenplays in both tv and film. She has also published the *Stop Secret* novel series and other works of fiction.



Photo credit: Reetta Somppi
Miila Westin

Miila Westin is a Helsinki based illustrator and comic author, who loves to draw colorful imaginary creatures and characters for books.

Stop Secret Mysteries, a middle-grade series by Ilona Ahti she illustrated, won the Runeberg Junior Honorary Prize 2024. Radio Popov, a children's book by Anja Portin she illustrated, won the Finlandia Junior Prize in 2020 and her visual narrative series titled *Mythicals* has received various nominations in Finland.

Mabel Merryweather and the Miniature Pirates

Noora Kunnas, Teemu Juhani

A fast and funny middle grade mystery series by a Finnish children's book author who loves Roald Dahl and crazy stories!

Series sold to 9 territories!

Winner of the Prix Chronos 2023 in Switzerland!

Supergranny, a singing rooster, and mischievous mini pirates – a new series begins!

Nick and Lilly's visit to their rule-loving, child-hating uncle turns into an adventure as the children get to know their exciting, eccentric neighbor: Mabel Merryweather. Mabel and her friends are preparing for a flower arranging competition, when the town is hit by a jewel thief. Nick, Lilly, and Mabel have their own problems as Mabel's decorative miniature pirates have come to life and are rummaging through backyards. And what happened to the main judge of the competition – a pop singer Monika who disappeared that same day? Something must be done to bring peace and order back to the town of Dalton.

Black-and-white illustrations by Teemu Juhani



"From early readers to adventure lovers, Mabel Merryweather and the Miniature Pirates is a great book for everyone!"

– Kirjavinkit blog

Original publication: Salmanterin Terttu ja minimerirosvot, Otava, 2019, 140 p

Reading materials: English sample and synopsis

Rights sold: FINLAND: Otava (orig.), BULGARIA: Enthusiast, DENMARK: ABC Forlag, GERMANY: Mixtvision, HUNGARY: Pagony, ITALY: Terre di Mezzo, NETHERLANDS: Veltman Uitgevers, POLAND: Znak, RUSSIA: Eksmo

About the Author



Photo credit: Emilia Liinpää
Noora Kunnas

Noora Kunnas is a children's author from Helsinki, Finland. She has the knack for making both children and grownups laugh while they're immersed in her zany books. She loves animals and British humor – she grew up watching *Jeeves and Wooster* and eating ice cream straight from the container. Kunnas draws her inspiration from the world of Roald Dahl. The trademark of her books is a nutty humor, spiced with quirky characters, as well as the titillating mood of various settings, where anything – and we mean anything – is possible.



Photo credit: Jonne Räsänen / Otava
Teemu Juhani

Teemu Juhani is a Finnish illustrator, comic artist and picture book author whose illustrations have been published in picture books and children's fiction in over 20 countries. In addition to children's books Teemu has illustrated magazines and educational material. Originally from the fields and woods of North Karelia, Teemu now lives, works and eats way too many cakes in Helsinki.

Monster Nanny

Tuutikki Tolonen, Pasi Pitkänen

Mary Poppins meets Where the Wild Things Are in this prize-winning series.

Rights sold in 37 territories!

A feature film in development, co-produced by Ridley Scott!

Monster Nanny is the winner of Arvid Lydecken Award 2016 and the Monster Nanny series was a Anni Polva Award nominee (2017)

Tuutikki Tolonen is also the winner of the LukuVarkaus Award 2021 and has been nominated for the Arvid Lydecken Award 2021, the Anni Polva Award 2021, and has received an honorable Mention at the Runeberg Junior Award 2021

The Hellman children must make do with a nanny while their mother is away at a spa. The only problem? Their nanny is a monster.

Grah is hairy, dusty, and doesn't talk. When the siblings discover that other neighborhood kids have been left with similar creatures, they start to wonder where the monsters came from. With the parents away, the kids work together (between bickering) to figure out the mystery of the monsters.

“ Within its pages, children outsmart adults, sense the vulnerable emotions of the monsters, and come to depend upon themselves and new friends. Loose-lined ink illustrations add extra humor to this imaginative fantasy, and plentiful dialogue makes it prime for reading aloud.”

– Booklist



Original publication: Mörkövahti, Tammi, 2015, 303 p

Reading materials: English edition

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.), , ALBANIA: Westprint, AUSTRALIA: Allen & Unwin, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA: Sahinpasic, BRAZIL: DarkSide Books, BULGARIA: Robertino, CATALAN: La Galera, CHINA: Beijing Children and Juvenile Publishing House, CROATIA: Znanje, CZECH REPUBLIC: Portál, s. r. o., DENMARK: Turbine forlaget, ESTONIA: Tiritamm, FILM RIGHTS: SCOTT FREE FILMS, FRANCE: Robert Laffont, GERMANY: Carl Hanser Verlag GmbH & CO. KG., GREECE: Patakis Publishers, HUNGARY: Tessloff Babilon, ITALY: Salani, JAPAN: SEKAIBUNKA Publishing, KOREA: Seosawon Co., Ltd., LATVIA: Zvaigzne ABC Publishers, LITHUANIA: Nieko Rimto/ Publishing House Nothing Serious, NETHERLANDS: Luitingh-Sijthof, NORWAY: Gyldendal, POLAND: Vesper, PORTUGAL: ASA Editions, ROMANIA: Editura Univers SRL, RUSSIA: Rosman, SERBIA: Laguna, SLOVAKIA: Arkus, SLOVENIA: Mladinska Knjiga Založba, SPAIN: La Galera, SWEDEN: RABÉN & SJÖGREN, TURKEY: SEV Publishing / Redhouse Kidz, UKRAINE: School Publishing House, UNITED STATES: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, VIETNAM: Nha Nam Publishing

About the Author



Photo credit: Otto Virtanen

Tuutikki Tolonen is the author of several acclaimed children's books, plays and academic articles. For *Monster Nanny* she received the Arvid Lydecken award. She teaches creative writing and has worked as an editor and reporter at *Vinski*, a Finnish literary magazine for children.



Photo credit: Jari Riihimäki

Pasi Pitkänen has become known for his richly detailed illustrative work on several children's books such as the *Monster Nanny* trilogy by Tuutikki Tolonen, as well as his own picture books like *Monster Tournament*. He has also worked at Rovio Entertainment as an illustrator, character designer and graphic designer for *Angry Birds*.

Black Moon Inn

Reetta Niemelä, Katri Kirkkopelto

Black Moon Inn starts a new magical middle-grade series irresistibly blending mythology and environmental protection!

Winner of the Arvid Lydecken Prize 2022

Nominated for the Finlandia Prize 2022 - Audience favourite!

Illustrator Katri Kirkkopelto was nominated for the Finlandia Prize several times (2005, 2016, 2020) and is the winner of the Kylli Koski Prize 2009

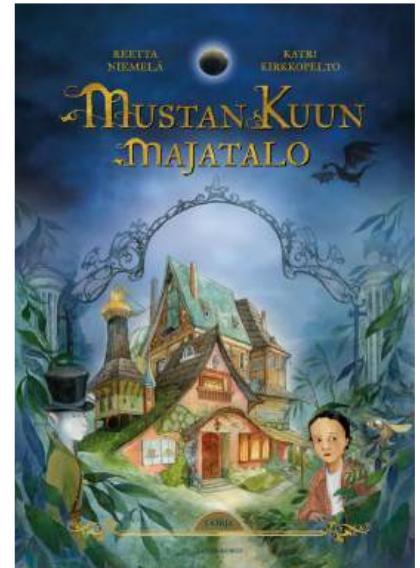
Author and poet Reetta Niemelä won the The Kaarina Helakisa Prize in 2011 and has so far been nominated for the Finlandia Prize three times!

The animal-loving Saimi Salaper and her veterinarian father move to the city of Bluehill in order to set up a hospital for wild animals there. By coincidence, they buy an old inn, where one can hear weird noises behind closed doors, see rare butterflies fly past on the yard, and, at the rooftop, there seems to be... a perch for dragons.

Little by little, the house reveals its secrets to Saimi, and soon the Black Moon Inn is open for creatures of the secret folk who seek refuge there: the trolls, the fairies, and many more. But there's a threat lurking just behind a corner, and the Inn takes both Saimi and the reader on an exciting adventure into the world of the secret folk.

“ *The novel, which refreshes the tradition of fairytales, speaks for environmental protection, animal rights and imagination. Just as important as it is to take care of nature and animals, it is to care for the world of magic, miracles, and imaginary creatures. The characters, customs and living areas of the trolls and fairies have been illustrated beautifully and with attention to detail. One wants to stop to appreciate each image, but also feels a strong need to carry on reading the story.*

Finlandia July 2022



Original publication: Mustan Kuun majatalo, Lasten Keskus, 2021, 310 p

Reading materials: English sample & synopsis

Rights sold: FINLAND: Lasten Keskus (orig.), ESTONIA: VARRAK

About the Author



Photo credit: Uzi Varon
Reetta Niemelä

Reetta Niemelä is an award-winning children's author. She has written poetry collections, picture books, nonfiction, study material and many beloved book series for children. For her work, she's been awarded e.g. Kaarina Helakisa Award and for her nonfiction the Tietopöllö award. Niemelä's fantasy novel Black Moon Inn, illustrated by Katri Kirkkopelto, won the Arvid Lydecken Award, was nominated for Finlandia Junior and was selected as the audience favourite.

Topics related to nature and especially animals are recurring themes in Niemelä's work. She wants to focus on how literature and language can give a voice to the silent ones.



Photo credit:
Katri Kirkkopelto

Katri Kirkkopelto is an award-winning artist, illustrator, and writer. She has illustrated and written multiple popular picture books and schoolbooks, and her children's books have also been seen on the theatre stage and published in other languages.

In 2009 Kirkkopelto received the Kylli Koski award, and her works have been nominated for Finlandia Junior in 2016, 2020, and 2022 (- *Black Moon Inn*, with Reetta Niemelä). In 2021 she won the Arvid Lydecken Award together with the writer Reetta Niemelä for *Black Moon Inn*. Kirkkopelto's illustrations have been exhibited in Finland and also abroad, e.g. in the biennale in Bratislava.

The Secrets of Grimhill: The Guardians of the Shadows

Janne Malinen, Teemu Juhani

A captivating middle-grade trilogy about being an outsider, of friendship, bravery, and loss.

- ☒ A mystery adventure trilogy where nothing is what it seems
- ☒ The atmospheric setting, strong characters and unique plotlines make this an irresistible read
- ☒ Series trailer in English available
- ☒ For fans of Astrid Lindgren and Harry Potter

The Secrets of Grimhill is a mystery adventure trilogy for middle-graders. Respecting the old traditions of the genre, there are mysterious whispers and dark corridors - but also friendship and laughter.

Book #3:

The final installment of the trilogy sees darkness rising from the East. The fate of Grimhill is on the shoulders of three children.

A chilling cold creeps over the fields and the Grimhill Sanatorium is covered in snow. Oskar, Vilma and Robin walk tirelessly and defy danger as they wander deeper into the dark forest to save Krista. Time is running out, and the closer the children get to their destination, the darker and more threatening the shadows become. The trio needs to face the evil that lives in the forest, and eventually one of them is faced with a hard decision to make. But could there also be something good hidden in the darkness?

Also available:

#1: The Secrets of Grimhill: Seven Lily-of-the-Valleys

#2: The Secrets of Grimhill: The Blood Red Crystal



Original publication: Waaralinnan salaisuudet 3. Varjojen vartijat, Tammi, 2024, 300 p

Reading materials: English synopsis-English sample book 1

Rights sold: Tammi



About the Author



Photo credit: Otto Virtanen
Janne Malinen

Janne Malinen (born 1981) has worked for a long time in communication and PR and as a freelance journalist. He has graduated from University of Helsinki in 2010 with the major in literature. In 2022, he was selected as Communication Consultant of the Year in Finland. The Secrets of the Grimhill Sanatorium: Guardians of the Shadows is the final book of the of the Grimhill-trilogy



Photo credit: Jonne Räsänen / Otava

Teemu Juhani is a Finnish illustrator, comic artist and picture book author whose illustrations have been published in picture books and children's fiction in over 20 countries. In addition to children's books Teemu has illustrated magazines and educational material. Originally from the fields and woods of North Karelia, Teemu now lives, works and eats way too many cakes in Helsinki.

The Book of the Forgotten

Anne-Maija Aalto

A stirring image of a future world where humanity is in danger of disappearing.

- The final installment of the award-winning trilogy!
- Prequel *Where the Light Comes In* won Finlandia award and Young Aleksis Award winner!
- Prequel *Dragonfly* was nominated for the Topelius Prize and the Young Aleksis Award!

Having escaped from the cruel and oppressive Union, Mai has spent months in a refugee camp, with no information about the fate of her beloved Satomi and the family she left behind. Eventually, she catches a glimpse of Satomi in the news. Satomi's situation is desperate, as her memory has been wiped clean in a human research institute. When Mai is presented with an opportunity to try and change the inevitable course of events, she seizes it without hesitation.

Also available in the **Dragonfly** trilogy:

Book #2: Where the Lights Come In

Aleksei is a young man whose father runs a human research institute in Tokyo, which is now partly covered by the sea. New batches of test subjects regularly arrive at the facility, including one with Satomi, a young woman whose memory is set to be erased. Satomi becomes Aleksei's trial case, since he is meant to continue his father's work. But something is already churning beneath the surface, and the younger generation can see the horrors of the system their parents have created.

Book #1: Dragonfly

A shocking, brilliantly told story about resistance in an unequal society.

Two young women, Satomi and Mai have always stuck together. They were born in an internment village on an island that was called Japan before sea level rose. They are non-citizens whose purpose is to serve full citizens.

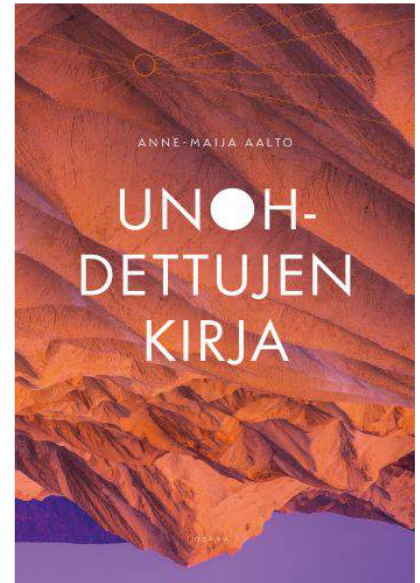
On good nights they go to the seaside together to wade. They still have that, even if everything else has been taken away from them. Then Commander Rafikov takes Mai to make her a Nymph. And Satomi can't just wait anymore.

"Dystopian YA at its best: beautifully nuanced yet enthralling and epic, Anne-Maija Aalto's novels are perfect for Murakami and Bradbury fans."

-Louison Couzy, *Éditions Milan, France*

“*The novel describes humanity skillfully, whether it is about an individual's desire to control, dominate and not care, or about the desire to escape to a virtual reality. The basis for the young protagonist's change builds up piece by piece, from the events experienced but also by understanding their parent's decisions. As long as the memories live and influence a person, they can find a path towards the new.*

Finlandia audience favourite motivations for Where the Light Comes In



Original publication: Unohdettujen kirja, Otava, 2024, 320 p

Reading materials: Finnish edition, English synopsis

Rights sold: FINLAND: Otava (orig.)

About the Author



Anne-Maija Aalto holds a Bachelor of Arts in creative writing from the University of Turku. She enjoys good stories and traveling to foreign cities. Her acclaimed debut novel *Into Deep Water* was published in 2016. Her second novel, *Dragonfly*, appeared in 2020 and was nominated for the Topelius Prize. Her 2021 *Where the Light Comes In* is the 2021 Finlandia Prize winner.

Sang

Elina Pitkäkangas

An epic novel about love and power in a fictional East Asia of the future! When a person's value is determined by money and happiness by family, what will be left when both are ripped away?

☒ Winner of the Topelius Award 2023, the City of Tampere Literature Prize 2023, and Kuvastaja Prize 2023!

☒ Praised by readers and critics for its convincing world-building, multifaceted characters and cinematic descriptions

☒ Rare representation of sign language in YA

The state of Fusang is recovering from a war that ravaged the world. 16-year-old Kong Dawei, an earnest young man, is living in a poor mountain village and tries to pay his adopted siblings' citizen dues by transporting contraband goods at night.

After a series of unfortunate events, Dawei ends up in the southern capital which is ruled by the cruel matriarch of the White Tiger Clan. When there is nothing else to lose, Dawei has only one goal: to get back to his loved ones, his brother Ren and his friend and love interest Dray— whatever it takes.

Sang is an addictive fantasy novel that travels through cold mountains and humid cities, noisy bazaars and opulent halls, and the world after the Black Rain, in which one's value is measured in money.

“ *The dystopian novel upholds a beautiful and dark atmosphere in the state of Fusang. Sang is an epic story about a youngster trying to fight against the impossible circumstances of a totalitarian state. Kong Dawei joins the rebels, and breathtaking events follow one another. Pitkäkangas' skill to conjure with believable details a whole world is enchanting. Our choices create a chain which not only joins us together, but also in the end defines who and what we are. Sang is a story about love, but above all it is a story about morale: all the things we are ready to do for one another.*

the Topelius Award jury



Original publication: Sang, FINLAND: WSOY (orig.), 2022, 496 p

Reading materials: Finnish text. English sample & synopsis, Danish edition

Rights sold: FINLAND: WSOY (orig.), DENMARK: Straarup & Co, GERMANY: CBJ Verlag, TURKEY: Indigo Kitap

About the Author



Elina Pitkäkangas is an author from Nokia, Finland, and an active advocate of YA literature. She has studied creative writing and did her master's degree in the University of Helsinki majoring in literature. Her works seamlessly combine elements of fantasy, social criticism and moral questions. Her accolades include winning the Topelius Award 2023, the City of Tampere Literature Prize 2023, and the Kuvastaja Prize 2023. Pitkäkangas has written five novels and produces book-related videos to TikTok and Instagram on her channel @elinapitkakangas.

Naraka

Elina Pitkäkangas

The sequel to *SANG* takes the reader back to Fusang and the world where Kong Dawei is faced with impossible choices.

☒ *SANG* was the winner of the Topelius Award 2023, the City of Tampere Literature Prize 2023, and Kuvastaja Prize 2023!

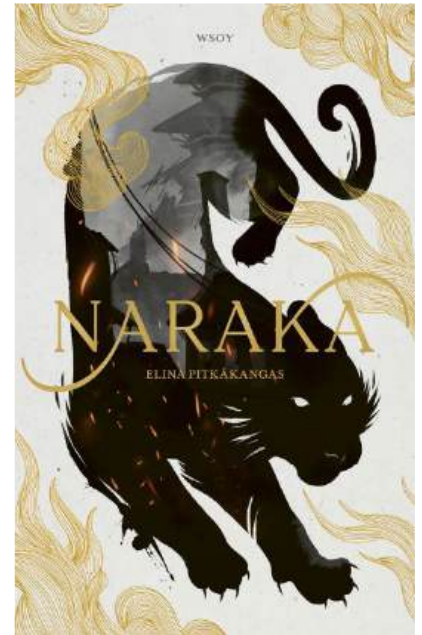
☒ Praised by readers and critics for its convincing world-building, multifaceted characters and cinematic descriptions

☒ Rare representation of sign language in YA

The new novel about war and human relations by the winner of the Topelius Prize

Kong Dawei has returned to his home region, but nothing is the same. The second book of the duology, loved by readers and praised by experts, is a vivid and an intensive novel about war, morals, and ever holding love.

The sequel of the top-rated book *SANG* presents Fusang's region Naraka, a workcamp where the unfortunate citizens are sent. The resistance is growing there. When Kong Dawei finds himself in the middle of The Iron Revolution, he must face the boundaries of his loyalty. Whose side does he want to be on? Can there be winners in the war?



Original publication: Naraka, FINLAND: WSOY (orig.), 2023, - p

Reading materials: English synopsis

Rights sold: FINLAND: WSOY (orig.), DENMARK: Straarup & Co



In the dystopian world recovering from a brutal war the different societal classes are miles apart, and the distance grows with a citizenship debt to be paid yearly. [-] Pitkäkangas describes the inequality and abuse of power skillfully. Warmth and balance is brought by the love between the brothers, but also romantic love and sexual desire. The object of the feelings is a friend, another boy, and the queer theme fits Sang without a fault.

Arla Kanerva in Helsingin Sanomat newspaper on *SANG*

About the Author



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The Invisibles

Sanna Isto

A haunted house. An Invisible boy. A summer of mystery and self-discovery

- ☒ Nominated for the Young Aleksis Award 2024!
- ☒ Grounded fantasy for the 12+ audience
- ☒ Nominated for the Finlandia Prize 2023 and Topelius Prize 2024
- ☒ Sanna Isto is a two-time winner of the Arvid Lydecken award (2012 & 2017) and was twice nominated for the Finlandia Prize (2017 & 2023)

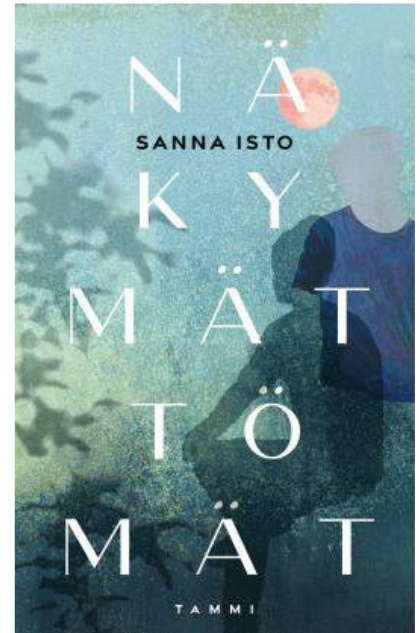
Spending her vacation away from the city and her friends was not what Pii had in mind for the summer she had been eagerly waiting for. And then even the holiday house turns out to be strange and peculiar. Who is the boy who moves around the house as if it were his own, and why can't anyone else see him?

Pii's experience of being an outsider turns into a strength, because she sees things that others don't notice. Soon she finds herself in the middle of a secret that overshadows the sunny idyll of the small village. Are the thefts of vacation homes and the unsolved death that happened half a year ago related? And what does the mysterious boy in the green cap have to do with all this?

Pii has to look for answers deep below the surface, and while diving for them, she also has to face herself. A vacation Pii expected to be boring turns into a journey of self-discovery, and in the end nothing - not even the ghosts - is what it seemed at first.

||| *A wonderful and surprising description of the need to be seen and the pain points of family and sibling relationships.*

Finlandia Award Selection Board



Original publication: Näkymättömät, Tammi, 2024, 293 p

Reading materials: English sample February 2024 English synopsis and praise sheet Finnish manuscript

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.)

About the Author



Sanna Isto is a Berlin based children's and YA author with a master's degree from the university of Helsinki. Her stories, rooted in everyday life, are often combined with something strange and out of the ordinary, which allows us to contemplate the world from a new and intriguing angle.

In the Dark I Can Be Yours

Salla Simukka

If your love can only be a secret, will it last?

Rights sold to Actes Sud in France!

Salla Simukka is Finland's most internationally bestselling author with the Snow White Trilogy sold in 52 territories!

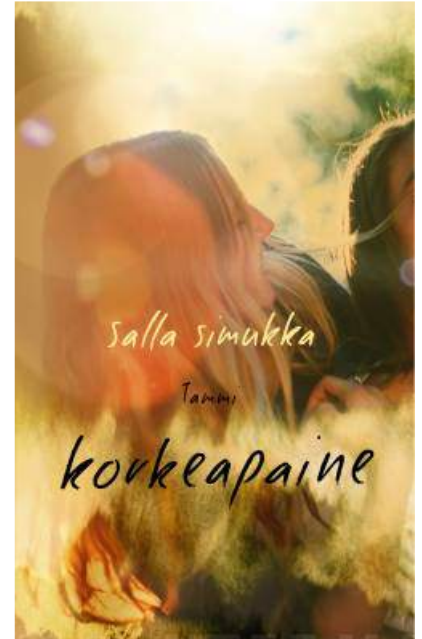
New YA novel from the Salla Simukka, whose Snow White trilogy has sold to 52 territories!

Varpu and Saga are two sixteen-year-old girls that are forced to stay in their hometown for the summer. After just one drunken kiss, prejudice and identity are shattered and it's revealed how behind the facade, everyone hurts and loves the same.

In The Dark I Can be Yours is a touching and beautiful title about great emotions in the summer. The authentic characters are supported by Simukka's light and airy narrative. Each side of the book tells one girl's story, which effortlessly melts together into a summer of love, insecurities, and exploration of two young people.

“ *In the Dark I Can Be Yours portrays queer love with airy light writing to the otherwise bittersweet undertones of the story. The ending is left hanging in the air in a way that makes you both thirst for more and think that every word in the novel was in the right place. A beautiful masterpiece from Simukka*

Siniset Helmet blog, Finland



Original publication:

Matalapaine/Korkeapaine, Tammi, 2021, 138 p

Reading materials: Full English translation

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi, FRANCE: Actes Sud jeunesse

About the Author



Salla Simukka is the author of the international success story The Snow White Trilogy: rights are sold in 53 territories and in Hollywood. She has written several novels for young readers and her accolades include the Topelius Prize 2013 and the Finland Prize 2013. Simukka has been nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award every year 2021–2024. Where It All Begins, published in 2022, is her first novel for adults and in 2024 she started a collaboration with JP Ahonen on a middle grade novel.

Maresi

Maria Turtschaninoff

The Red Abbey Chronicles is a historically-inspired feminist fantasy saga, aimed at young adult audiences.

☒ Rights sold in 31 territories!

☒ Maria Turtschaninoff is a two-time winner of the Society of Swedish Literature Prize, a nominee for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (2020-2024), and winner of the 2014 Finlandia Prize!

☒ **INHERITED LAND**, Maria Turtschaninoff's first adult fiction novel, has been awarded the prestigious Swedish YLE Literature Prize 2022

#1 Maresi

The Red Abbey is a refuge for women and girls where everyone pursues their own areas of interest. Maresi prefers to spend her time reading and learning. Everything changes when the frightened Jai arrives on the island. She has seen her sister get buried alive for speaking to a young man, and her father and a crew of thugs are after her. Maresi and her friends have to fight to defend both Jai and their community.

#2 Naondel

An independent prequel to Maresi, Naondel tells the story of the First Sisters – founders of the Red Abbey.

Imprisoned in a harem by a dangerous man with a dark magic that grants him power over life and death, the women must overcome their mistrust of each other in order to escape. But they can only do so at great cost, both to those who leave and those left behind.

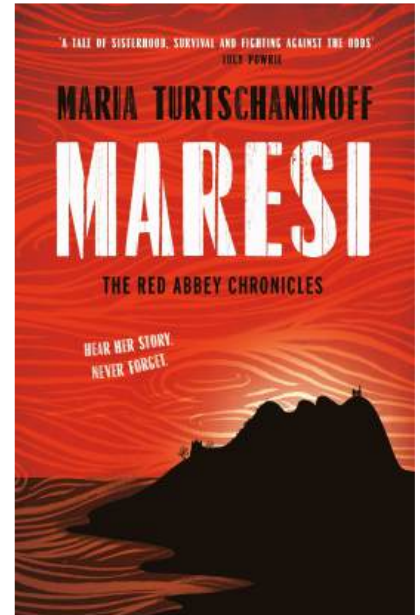
#3 Maresi: Red Mantle

The third book is an epistolary novel that follows Maresi after she leaves the Red Abbey to establish a school in her oppressed home province of Rovas. The return to her Northern home, and fitting in, is not easy even with all the knowledge she's bringing with her, but she is determined to triumph over the difficulties. However, she does not need to make it alone, for life has yet another surprise in store: love.



"The novel is at once contemporary and timeless. Its unwavering feminism is resolutely modern, resonating with a range of texts from Ursula Le Guin's 2001 Tales from Earthsea to Disney's Frozen. At the same time, it feels authentically ancient and mythic."

– The Guardian



Original publication: Maresi, Schildts & Söderströms, 2014, 180 p

Reading materials: English edition

Rights sold: FINLAND: Schildts & Söderströms (orig. Finland-Swedish), Tammi (Finnish), ALBANIA: Dritan, AZERBAIJAN: Alatoran, BRAZIL: Editora Morro Branco, BULGARIA: Izida, CANADA: Groupe Ville-Marie Littérature, CHINA: Shanghai 99 Readers' Culture, CROATIA: Naklada Ljevak, DENMARK: Turbine forlaget, ESTONIA: Varrak Publishers, FRANCE: Rageot, GERMANY: Heyne, HUNGARY: Scolar Kiado, ITALY: Atmosphere Libri, KOREA: Gimm Young Publishers, LATVIA: Izdevnieciba Petergailis SIA, LITHUANIA: Aukso pieva, NORTH MACEDONIA: Sakam Knigi, NORWAY: Bazar Forlag AS, NORWAY: Gursli Berg Forlag, POLAND: Sonia Draga, ROMANIA: Univers Publishing House, RUSSIA: Eksmo, SPAIN: Editora Alfaguara I&J, TURKEY: Altin Kitaplar, UNITED KINGDOM: Pushkin Press, UNITED STATES: Abrams Children's

About the Author



Maria Turtschaninoff is known for crafting lyrical, historically inspired fantasy stories starring strong female protagonists. In addition to J.R.R. Tolkien, she counts Philip Pullman, Ursula K. Le Guin and C.S. Lewis among her favorite authors. She is a two-time winner of the Society of Swedish Literature Prize, winner of the Swedish YLE Literature Prize, winner of the Thank You for the Book Award, a nominee for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (2020-2024), and winner of the 2014 Finlandia Junior Prize. In 2024, Maria Turtschaninoff won the Eeva Joenpelto Literary Prize (10,000 euro award) for her literary masterpiece *Tangled Roots*.

Her *Red Abbey Chronicles* YA trilogy has been sold into 30 languages, while her first adult novel *Tangled Roots* has been sold to 23 territories. Maria has a Master of Arts in human ecology and works full-time as a writer.

As Red as Blood

Salla Simukka

A *Booklist* pick for 100 Best Children's and YA Mysteries of the past decade.

This international bestseller is an edge-of-your-seat thriller that chills to the bone – and not just because of the icy winter setting.

☒ Hollywood TV show in development by Zerogravity (“Ozark”)!

☒ Rights sold in 53 territories!

#1 As Red As Blood

It's the coldest winter in decades: the streets of Tampere are frozen and white with snow. And nothing is as red against white snow as blood... 17-year-old Lumikki Andersson goes to a high school of performing arts. She has made it a rule to stay out of things that do not involve her.

However, the rule is put to the test on Leap Day when she finds washed five hundred euro notes hung to dry in her school's darkroom. Soon Lumikki finds herself caught in a tangled web of international drug trafficking.

#2 As White As Snow

Lumikki is backpacking in Prague, where the weather is scorching hot. A girl approaches her in a small café and claims to be her step sister. Lumikki's parents seem to be hiding a secret concerning the family's past, so the girl's claim rouses Lumikki's interest. Despite her erratic behaviour, the girl manages to persuade Lumikki to join a religious community. But the religion of the cult is not pure; and innocence is not as white as snow...

#3 As Black As Ebony

Lumikki is set to play the leading role in a modern-day version of Snow White at her high school. As opening night approaches, Lumikki starts receiving notes from a secret admirer whose infatuation soon turns out to be a dangerous obsession. The admirer threatens to turn the premiere into a bloodbath unless Lumikki consents to his demands. Time is running out, the opening night is just around the corner, and Lumikki has to find a way to outwit the stalker with a soul as black as ebony.

 *“Limned in stark red, white, and black, this cold, delicate snowflake of a tale sparkles with icy magic.”*

—Kirkus Reviews (Starred Review)



Original publication: Punainen kuin veri, Tammi, 2013, 264 p

Reading materials: English edition

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.);- , ALBANIA: Muza, AZERBAIJAN: Qanun, BRAZIL: Novo Conceito, BULGARIA: Egmont Bulgaria, CHINA: Modern Press, CZECH REPUBLIC: Egmont Czech Republic, DENMARK: Gyldendal Danmark, ESTONIA: Pegasus, FAROE ISLANDS: Bokadeildin, FINLAND (Karelian rights): Karjalan sivistysseura, FRANCE: Hachette Black Moon, GEORGIA: Bakur Sulakauri Publishing, GERMANY: Arena Verlag, GREECE: Metaixmio Editorial House S.A., HUNGARY: Athenaeum Publishing, INDONESIA: PT Bhuana Ilmu Populer, ISRAEL: Yedioth Publishing and Licensing, ITALY: Mondadori Italy, JAPAN: Nishimura Co., Ltd., LATVIA: Zvaigzne ABC Publishers, LITHUANIA: Alma Littera, MALAYSIA: Buku Fixi, NETHERLANDS: Clavis Books, NORTHERN MACEDONIA: BATA Press, NORWAY: Gyldendal, POLAND: Foksal Publishing Group, PORTUGAL: Editorial Presença, ROMANIA: 3 Trei, RUSSIA: Eksmo, SERBIA: Vulkan, SLOVENIA: Mladinska Knjiga Založba, SOUTH KOREA: Gimm Young Publishers, SPAIN: La Galera, SWEDEN: RABÉN & SJÖGREN, TAIWAN: Emily Publishing Company, THAILAND: Nanmee Books, TURKEY: Altin Kitaplar, TV/FILM: Zero Gravity Management, UNITED KINGDOM: Hot Key Books, UNITED STATES: Crown Books for Young Readers, VIET NAM: Alpha Books, WORLD ARABIC: Arab Scientific Publishers, Inc.

About the Author



Salla Simukka is the author of the international success story The Snow White Trilogy: rights are sold in 53 territories and in Hollywood. She has written several novels for young readers and her accolades include the Topelius Prize 2013 and the Finland Prize 2013. Simukka has been nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award every year 2021–2024. Where It All Begins, published in 2022, is her first novel for adults and in 2024 she started a collaboration with JP Ahonen on a middle grade novel.

Mini Science 1: Where Are You

Laura Ertimo, Sanna Pelliccioni

A science series for the smallest in the family!

Big science questions are made accessible for the 0-3 audience

Sanna Pelliccioni is an awarded illustrator, and the only Finn named on the IBBY honour list 2022

Laura Ertimo is the star of Finnish non-fiction books for children and her books have sold in 18 countries. She has won the Tietopöllum Prize (2020) and the Tieto Lauri Award (2022) and was nominated for the Finlandia Award (2021)

Mini Science series tackles big science questions with lovely illustrations and encourages kids to wonder and ask questions. It feeds curiosity and is designed to start conversations about different topics that children might not think about on their own.

#1 WHERE ARE YOU

In *Where Are You?*, we follow Plop, a little creature who guides us through space to Earth and from there into human DNA and, finally, to the world of atoms. Zooming in all the way from the enormities of space to the minisculness of atoms, we learn a great deal in between.

#2 INVISIBLE WORLD

In the second title of the *Mini Science* series – *Invisible World* – the adorable character Plop will discover things one cannot see – electricity, a garden in the fog, darkness, microorganisms and other well-hidden things. When Plop gets sick, he learns about bacteria and viruses and how to avoid them. Vaccinations can seem scary, but they keep us healthy! Sometimes it's better to stay home, even if it makes you bored, so that soon you can go off to discover the Dark Side of The Moon!

#3 TRAVELLING PLANTS

In *The Travelling Plants* our adventurer Plop ponders a tricky question: if rooted to the ground, how can one travel? Plants are the foundation of the Earth's living network. But they are not here just for animals and humans – plants have their own mysterious life, which, in the end, is not so different from ours. They grow, reproduce and send off their offspring, and indeed, even travel around the world.

The Travelling Plants shows how all of us are interconnected and need each other throughout life.



Original publication: Pikkutieto 1 Missä sinä olet?, Minerva, 2020, 20 p

Reading materials: Full English PDF

Rights sold: FINLAND: Minerva (orig.), ARABIC: Sefsafa Publishing, CHINA: Guangxi Normal University Press/Mysterium, ESTONIA: Avita, GREECE: Klidarithmos, TURKEY: Yapi Kredi



About the Author



Photo credit: Emilia Anundi
Laura Ertimo

Laura Ertimo is a geographer and author. She has previously worked in publishing of geography-related non-fiction and maps, and now she writes full time, specializing in children's non-fiction. A recurring theme in her work is the holistic worldview, the interaction between phenomena, people and nature.

In 2020, she received the prestigious Tietopöllum Award for her work as a Non-Fiction writer. Her children's title *WHERE DID THE ANIMALS GO*, illustrated by Mari Ahokoivu, was nominated for the 2021 Finlandia Award and has also won the Tieto-Lauri award!



Photo credit: Paolo Pelliccioni
Sanna Pelliccioni

Sanna Pelliccioni is a Finnish illustrator, graphic designer and children's author living in Helsinki with her Finnish-Italian family. An awarded illustrator, Pelliccioni has been e.g. honoured with being the only Finn named on the IBBY honour list 2022. Pelliccioni utilizes many different techniques in her illustrations, some of her favourites are collage and mixed techniques. She studied Arts and Illustration in Bologna and Macerata, Italy, and Graphic Design at the Pekka Halonen Institute in Finland.

Weird Weather

Laura Ertimo, Mari Ahokoivu

This book answers children's tough questions about climate change, and explains how we can all fight against it.

- ☒ **Weird Weather sold to 18 territories and published in the US!**
- ☒ **Mari Ahokoivu and Laura Ertimo won the Tieto-Lauri Award in 2022 for WHERE DID ALL THE ANIMALS GO? and have been nominated for the Finlandia Prize in 2021**
- ☒ **Laura Ertimo is the star of Finnish non-fiction books for children and her books have been sold in 21 countries!**
- ☒ **Mari Ahokoivu won the Puupäähattu Comic Book Award in 2023!**

Two clever buddies, Lotta and Kasper get tired of their parents' evasive answers about weird weather. They decide to research what climate change is really is about!

Weird Weather! is accurate but hopeful children's nonfiction that explains how humans are responsible for climate change and what we can do to ensure a brighter future. It also gives tips on how everyone can make better choices and practice climate skills every day. But climate change won't be beaten with tiny tricks, and this book also encourages talking to children about how to make changes in society, and how working together can change everything.

“ *I'm so excited to add WEIRD WEATHER to Sky Pony's list! This important book delivers information about climate change to children in a way that's both easily digestible and entertaining. Hopefully children and parents alike will get a better sense of the world around them – and what they can do for it – after this read!*

– Nicole Frail, Senior Editor, Skyhorse Publishing/Sky Pony Press, United States.



Original publication: Ihme ilmat, Into-, 2019, 48 p

Reading materials: English sample, Full Finnish ms

Rights sold: FINLAND: Into (orig.), DENMARK: Staarup & Co., ESTONIA: Avita, GERMANY: Cross Cult, HUNGARY: Ciceró Könyvstudió Kft., ITALY: Edizioni Piemme S.p.a, LITHUANIA: Obuolys, MACEDONIA: Feniks, MEXICO (Latin American Spanish rights): Ordinal, NORWAY: Aschehoug, POLAND: AMBER Sp. z o.o., SERBIA: Odiseja, SLOVAKIA: Ikar, SPAIN: Norma Editorial, SWEDEN: Raben & Sjörger, UNITED STATES: Skyhorse Publishing

About the Author



Photo credit: Emilia Anundi
Laura Ertimo

Laura Ertimo is a geographer and author. She has previously worked in publishing of geography-related non-fiction and maps, and now she writes full time, specializing in children's non-fiction. A recurring theme in her work is the holistic worldview, the interaction between phenomena, people and nature.

In 2020, she received the prestigious Tietopöllö Award for her work as a Non-Fiction writer. Her children's title WHERE DID THE ANIMALS GO, illustrated by Mari Ahokoivu, was nominated for the 2021 Finlandia Award and has also won the Tieto-Lauri award!



Photo credit: Antti Ahokoivu
Mari Ahokoivu

Mari Ahokoivu is a Finnish illustrator and a comics artist. She's been drawing professionally for over 10 years, mainly drawing graphic novels and comics for children, including Sanni & Joonas and Lola Olifante. Ahokoivu loves everything cute and scary. She lives and works in Copenhagen.

Mari Ahokoivu won the Puupäähattu Comic Book Award 2023, and together with Laura Ertimo, they won the Tieto-Lauri Award 2022 and were nominated for the Finlandia Prize 2021 for WHERE DID THE ANIMALS GO?!

Where Did the Animals Go - Travelling Through Time With Lotta and Kasper

Laura Ertimo, Mari Ahokoivu

How has humanity survived this long? How can we, and other species, survive in the future? A much-needed book that helps make sense of the biodiversity crisis!

Tieto-Lauri Prize Winner 2022 – Best Finnish Non-Fiction Children's Title!

Nominated for the Finlandia Award in 2021!

Sequel to *Weird Weather*, sold to 18 countries!

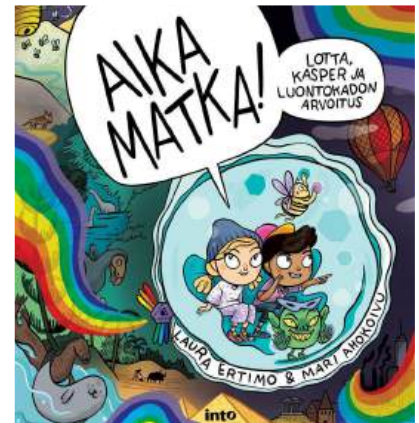
Mari Ahokoivu won the Puupäähattu Comic Book Award 2023

Lotta and Kasper keep seeing new worrisome news: dying bees, endangered animals, plastic in the Mariana Trench and on the glaciers of Antarctica, rivers polluted by mines, forest fires... The children realize that climate change is only one part of an escalating environmental crisis. How will we survive?

Now retired fossil gremlin suggests that Lotta and Kasper set out on a grand journey through time to find clues about the great changes that life has undergone in the past and how life has continued after major catastrophes. Through their journey, they come to see the roots of the current situation, understand why solving it is so tricky and learn how the human species has overcome previous crises to survive to this day.

“*Laura Ertimo has undertaken a challenging yet important task - to write for children about the biodiversity crisis and the problems arising from it. The topics themselves are complex, but the time travel layout and engaging comic strips assist in understanding, whereas the pictures encourage children to look into the issues at hand.*

- Anneli Veskimägi, Avita, Estonia



Original publication: Aika matka! Lotta, Kasper ja luontokadon arvoitus, Into, 2021, 48 p

Reading materials: English synopsis, Full English translation, Finnish PDF

Rights sold: FINLAND: Into (orig.), ESTONIA: Kirjastus Avita, GERMANY: Cross Cult, HUNGARY: Tessloff & Babilon

About the Author



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We Are Powerful!

Laura Ertimo, Mari Ahokoivu

In *We Are Powerful!* Lotta and Kasper delve into how people use power.

Newest title by the Tieto-Lauri awarded duo Laura Ertimo and Mari Ahokoivu, tackling the question of power into something easily understandable by children!

Best friends Laura and Kasper start junior high in a new school. In addition to the question of whether their friendship will survive in a new group, the two also start to wonder about power, as the nearby forest is under a threat.

How is power used? Does everyone have power? Who gets to decide what happens to the forest? Biodiversity loss and the climate crisis are real and a massive challenge - but how come it feels like not enough is being done? Who is responsible?

The book also peeks into our brain and ponders how humans are peculiar animals that are able to tell stories. Stories that we have the power to change. Could our connection to nature be the biggest story of them all?

Author Laura Ertimo's and comic artist Mari Ahokoivu's new book WE ARE POWERFUL reminds reader that it is in the stories we tell that the power and shortcomings of humans are visible. [-] When reading, one can't help but admire the passion and knowledge of the creators.

Aino Miikkulainen in Helsingin Sanomat newspaper



Original publication: Mikä Mahti!, FINLAND: Into (orig.), 2023, - p

Reading materials: English sample and synopsis

Rights sold: FINLAND: Into (orig.)

About the Author



Photo credit: Emilia Anundi
Laura Ertimo

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